

SASKATCHEWAN ROWING ASSOCIATION SAFE SPORT POLICY MANUAL

Introduction

SRA has a fundamental obligation and responsibility to protect the health, safety and physical and mental well-being of every Individual that is involved in the Saskatchewan rowing community.

SRA takes any situation involving misconduct or Maltreatment and Prohibited Behaviour very seriously; for this reason, SRA is committed to enacting and enforcing strong, clear, and effective policies and processes for preventing and addressing all forms of misconduct or Maltreatment and Prohibited Behaviour.

This SRA Safe Sport Manual contains policies for the entire Saskatchewan rowing community, that are applicable across Saskatchewan and from the club level to the national team. The policies are intended to promote a safe sport environment in a manner that allows for consistent, immediate, appropriate and meaningful action should any issues arise, but also to prevent issues from arising by communicating expected standards of behaviour to all participants.

This SRA Safe Sport Manual has been prepared by Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA), as well as in collaboration with Sask Sport, and has been adopted by SRA as the applicable safe sport policies in Saskatchewan. Should any individuals involved with rowing programs, including Athletes, coaches, umpires, officials, volunteers, and parents/guardians of Athletes, wish to Report any instance of misconduct, Maltreatment or Prohibited Behaviour, it must do so directly to RCA's Independent Third Party, who will then determine the appropriate forum and manner to address the complaint. The RCA Independent Third Party may refer matters that fall within the SRA's jurisdiction under this Safe Sport Manual to the Sask Sport Independent Third Party.

This SRA Safe Sport Manual incorporates the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) by reference and will apply, as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport, to all Individuals as a condition of their participation in the sport of rowing in Saskatchewan.

Where applicable, any allegations involving Maltreatment and/or Prohibited Behaviour, as those terms are defined in the UCCMS, as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport, that involves an Abuse-Free Sport Participant, must be Reported directly to the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC)¹, which will manage the matter in accordance with the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code, and any other relevant and applicable policies.

If the RCA Independent Third Party or Sask Sport Independent Third Party receives a Report involving allegations of Maltreatment and/or Prohibited Behaviour that should have been Reported to OSIC as described above, they shall refer the matter to the OSIC and notify the Individual(s) that made the complaint of such action.

Except for those matters that must be reported to the OSIC, upon receipt of a Report from an Individual, the Independent Third Party will determine the appropriate forum and manner to address the complaint.

¹ The Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner is also referred to as Abuse-Free Sport.

It should also be noted that certain policies found in this SRA Safe Sport Manual also apply to matters beyond safe sport (i.e., the Appeal Policy). As such, these policies will also be published on SRA's website so that they are accessible and applicable in all relevant areas.

Lastly, SRA notes and wishes to advise the Saskatchewan rowing community that, if any Policy, in whole or in part, is excerpted from this SRA Safe Sport Manual, any such action must be taken with the knowledge, and disclosure to any receiving party, that the Policy is part of the Safe Sport Manual, which may impact its application or understanding.

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SRA

DEFINITIONS

The terms defined below shall apply to SRA policies included in this SRA Safe Sport Manual.

1. “*Abuse-Free Sport*” - Program created by the SDRCC in accordance with its mandate to establish an independent safe sport mechanism to implement the UCCMS
2. “*Abuse-Free Sport Participant*” - an Individual affiliated with PRA’s national sport organization, and who has signed the required Abuse-Free Sport Participant consent form.
3. “*Affected Party*” - Any Individual or entity, as determined by the Appeal Manager, who may be affected by a decision rendered under the *Appeal Policy* and who may have recourse to an appeal in their own right under the *Appeal Policy*.
4. “*Appellant*” – The Party appealing a decision pursuant to the *Appeal Policy*.
5. “*Appeal Manager*” – An individual appointed by SRA who may be an independent third party, to oversee the administration of the *Appeal Policy*. The Appeal Manager’s responsibilities shall include those as described in the *Appeal Policy*. The Appeal Manager shall be independent of SRA. Appeal Managers that satisfy the relevant requirements to perform such duties can be found on the Sask Sport website [here](#).
6. “*Athlete*” – includes any Individual who is registered with RCA or SRA for either recreational or competitive purposes.
7. “*Board*” – the Board of Directors of SRA, as applicable.
8. “*Case Manager*” – an independent individual appointed by SRA, as applicable, to fulfill the responsibilities described in the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*. In order to be appointed as a Case Manager, the individual must have relevant experience and skills to manage complaints and perform their duties, either as a legal practitioner or sport administrator. Case management service providers that satisfy the relevant requirements to perform such duties can be found on the Sask Sport website [here](#).
9. “*Complainant*” – the Party making a complaint pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* and as referred to in the *Investigations Policy*.
10. “*Complaint Resolution Officer*” – an individual appointed to handle the duties of the Complaint Resolution Officer as described in the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*. Complaint Resolution Officers that satisfy the relevant requirements to perform such duties can be found on the Sask Sport website [here](#).
11. “*Criminal Record Check (CRC)*” – A search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system for adult convictions
12. “*Days*” – calendar days²
13. “*Director of Sanctions and Outcomes*” – the individual(s) responsible for overseeing the imposition of Provisional Measures, agreed outcomes, Sanctions and appearing before the Safeguarding Tribunal or the Appeal Tribunal in cases arising from a potential breach of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) (or other conduct rules, as applicable) within the jurisdiction of the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC).

² For the purpose of calculating deadlines, the following shall apply: the day of the act is not included in the calculation (i.e., the date of receipt of a decision is not Day 1); instead, the deadline would start on the day following receipt of the decision and would expire at midnight (in the location of the individual seeking to file an appeal) on the last day of the period. If the end date is a Saturday, a Sunday or a legal holiday, the period runs until the next day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a legal holiday. For example, if an Individual receives a decision on Thursday December 17, 2020, the 14-day deadline to appeal this decision starts on Friday December 18, 2020 and would expire on Friday January 1, 2021. However, since January 1, 2021 is a legal holiday, January 2, 2021 is a Saturday, and January 3, 2021 is a Sunday, the deadline to appeal would expire at midnight (in the location of the individual seeking to file an appeal) on January 4, 2021.

14. “*Discrimination*” – as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
15. “*Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)*” – a Criminal Record Check plus a search of local police information, available from Sterling Backcheck
16. “*Event*” – An event sanctioned by RCA or a Member, including SRA, and which may include a social Event.
17. “*Harassment*” – A vexatious comment (or comments) or conduct against an Individual or group, irrespective of whether the comment or conduct occurs in person or via any other media, including social media, which is known or ought to reasonably be known to be unwelcome. Types of behaviour that constitute Harassment include, but are not limited to:
- i. Written or verbal abuse, threats, or outbursts;
 - ii. Persistent unwelcome remarks, jokes, comments, innuendo, or taunts;
 - iii. Racial harassment, which is racial slurs, jokes, name calling, or insulting behaviour or terminology that reinforces stereotypes or discounts abilities because of racial or ethnic origin;
 - iv. Leering or other suggestive or obscene gestures;
 - v. Condescending or patronizing behaviour which is intended to undermine self-esteem, diminish performance or adversely affect working conditions;
 - vi. Practical jokes which endanger a person’s safety, or which may negatively affect performance;
 - vii. Hazing, which is any form of conduct which exhibits any potentially humiliating, degrading, abusive, or dangerous activity, which does not contribute to any Individual’s positive development, but is required to be accepted as part of a team or group, regardless of the individual’s willingness to participate. This includes, but is not limited to, any activity, no matter how traditional or seemingly benign, that sets apart or alienates any teammate or group member based on class, number of years on the team or with the group, or ability;
 - viii. Unwanted physical contact including, but not limited to, touching, petting, pinching, or kissing;
 - ix. Deliberately excluding or socially isolating a person from a group or team;
 - x. Persistent sexual flirtations, advances, requests, or invitations;
 - xi. Physical or sexual assault;
 - xii. Behaviours such as those described above that are not directed towards a specific person or group but have the same effect of creating a negative or hostile environment; and
 - xiii. Retaliation or threats of retaliation against a person who Reports harassment to RCA or to a Member.
18. “*Individuals*” – refers to all categories of members and/or registrants defined in the Bylaws of RCA or, as applicable, in the Bylaws of SRA, any other Member, as well as all people employed by, contracted by, or engaged in activities with RCA, SRA or another Member including, but not limited to, employees, contractors, Athletes, coaches, umpires, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, parents or guardians, spectators, Committee members or Directors or Officers
19. “*Maltreatment*” – as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
20. “*Members*” – Rowing Organizations, including Rowing Clubs,³ Special Associations and Provincial Rowing

³ Wherever the term ‘Club’ is used in any policy included in this policy manual, it shall be understood as a Special Association where appropriate and required by the circumstances.

Associations.

21. “*Minor*” – any Individual who is under the age of majority at the time and in the jurisdiction where the alleged breach of any RCA, SRA or other Member’s policy has occurred. Adult Individuals are responsible for knowing the age of a Minor in the relevant jurisdiction.
22. “*OSIC*” – the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner, which is an independent division of the SDRCC, which comprises the functions of the Sport Integrity Commissioner.
23. “*Parties*” – in the context of a complaint under the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*, the Complainant and Respondent; in the context of an appeal under the *Appeal Policy*, the Appellant, Respondent and Affected Party (or Parties).
24. “*Person in Authority*” – Any Individual who holds a position of authority within RCA, SRA or any other Member, including, but not limited to, coaches, umpires, officials, managers, support personnel, chaperones, Committee members, and Directors or Officers. In addition to the responsibilities described for Individuals in the Code of Conduct and Ethics, a Person in Authority shall be responsible for knowing what constitutes Maltreatment.
25. “*Power Imbalance*” - as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
26. “*PSO Safe Sport Liaison*” - the designated individual who is responsible for acting as a representative of the SRA and who is the lead point of contact for any safe sport or dispute resolution matters. This includes, but is not limited to; 1) working directly with the Independent Third Party to select Complaint Resolution Officers, Case Managers and Appeal Managers from approved listing (found on Sask Sport’s website), 2) ensuring major and minor sanctions are enforced, 3) ensuring mediation agreements are approved by SRA and upheld, 4) long-term suspensions (1 year or longer) are reported to Sask Sport, 5) screening requirements and educational/training requirements are enforced. Safe Sport Liaisons must have knowledge and experience in board governance and must have completed the Governance Essentials e-learning course offered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport
27. “*RCA Independent Third Party*” – the independent individual retained by RCA to receive complaints and to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Discipline and Complaints Policy and Investigation Policy, as applicable.
28. “Reporting (or Report)” : as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
29. “*Respondent*” – the Party responding to a complaint or investigation; or, in the case of an appeal, the body or organization whose decision is being appealed, or the Individual who was the subject of a decision that is being appealed.
30. “*Sask Sport Independent Third Party*” – the independent organization or individual(s) retained by Sask Sport to receive complaints and to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*, *Investigation Policy* and *Appeal Policy*, as applicable.
31. “*Sexual Harassment*” – as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
32. “*SDRCC*” – the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada.
33. “*Tampering*” – as defined in the Canadian Anti-Doping Program, as amended from time to time by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.
34. “*UCCMS*” – the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport, as amended from time to time by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport.
35. “*Social media*” – The catch-all term that is applied broadly to computer-mediated communication media such as blogs, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr, Snapchat, Tik-Tok, and Twitter.
36. “*Vulnerable Participant*” – as defined in the UCCMS and as amended from time to time by the SDRCC;

37. “*Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)*” – a detailed check that includes a search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system, local police information, and the Pardoned Sex Offender database
38. “*Workplace*” - Any place where Events, business or work-related activities are conducted. Workplaces include but are not limited to, the office or facilities of RCA, SRA or any other Member, work-related social functions, work assignments outside offices, work-related travel, the training and competition environment (wherever located), and work-related conferences or training sessions
39. “*Workplace Harassment*” – Vexatious comment(s) or conduct against a worker in a Workplace that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome. Workplace Harassment should not be confused with legitimate, reasonable management actions that are part of the normal work/training function, including measures to correct performance deficiencies, such as placing someone on a performance improvement plan, or imposing discipline for workplace infractions. Types of behaviour that constitute Workplace Harassment include, but are not limited to:
- i. Bullying;
 - ii. Workplace pranks, vandalism, bullying or hazing;
 - iii. Repeated offensive or intimidating phone calls, text messages or emails;
 - iv. Inappropriate sexual touching, advances, suggestions or requests;
 - v. Displaying or circulating offensive pictures, photographs or materials in printed or electronic form;
 - vi. Psychological abuse;
 - vii. Excluding or ignoring someone, including persistent exclusion of a person from work-related social gatherings;
 - viii. Deliberately withholding information that would enable a person to do his or her job, perform or train;
 - ix. Sabotaging someone else’s work or performance;
 - x. Gossiping or spreading malicious rumours;
 - xi. Intimidating words or conduct (offensive jokes or innuendos); and
 - xii. Words or actions which are known or should reasonably be known to be offensive, embarrassing, humiliating, or demeaning.
40. “*Workplace Violence*” – the use of or threat of physical force by a person against a worker in a Workplace that causes or could cause physical injury to the worker; an attempt to exercise physical force against a worker in a Workplace that could cause physical injury to the worker; or a statement or behaviour that it is reasonable for a worker to interpret as a threat to exercise physical force against the worker in a Workplace that could cause physical injury to the worker. Types of behaviour that constitute Workplace Violence include, but are not limited to:
- Verbal or written threats to attack;
 - Sending or leaving threatening notes, text messages or emails;
 - Physically threatening behaviour such as shaking a fist at someone, finger pointing, destroying property, or throwing objects;
 - Wielding a weapon in a Workplace;
 - Hitting, pinching or unwanted touching which is not accidental;
 - Dangerous or threatening horseplay;
 - Physical restraint or confinement;
 - Blatant or intentional disregard for the safety or wellbeing of others;
 - Blocking normal movement or physical interference, with or without the use of equipment;
 - Sexual violence; and
 - Any attempt to engage in the type of conduct outlined above.

SRA

ATHLETE PROTECTION POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	Appendix A – Image Consent Form

Purpose

1. This Athlete Protection Policy describe how Persons in Authority shall maintain a safe sport environment for all Athletes.

Interactions between Persons in Authority and Athletes – the ‘Rule of Two’

2. Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) and its Members, including SRA, strongly recommend the ‘Rule of Two’ for all Persons in Authority who interact with Athletes, whether in person or remotely (i.e., in virtual settings). The Coaching Association of Canada describes the intention of the ‘Rule of Two’ as follows:

A coach must never be alone or out of sight with a minor athlete. Two NCCP trained or certified coaches should always be present with an athlete, especially a minor athlete, when in a potentially vulnerable situation such as in a locker room or meeting room. All one-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete must take place within earshot and in view of a second coach except for medical emergencies. One of the coaches must also be of the same gender as the athlete. Should there be a circumstance where a second screened and NCCP trained or certified coach is not available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited.

3. SRA recognizes that fully implementing the ‘Rule of Two’, as described above (and modified accordingly for Persons in Authority), in all circumstances, may not always be possible. Consequently, at a minimum, interactions between Persons in Authority and Athletes must respect the following:
 - i. Unless prohibited by public health order, the training and competition environments should be open to observation so that all interactions between Persons in Authority and Athletes are observable.
 - ii. Private or one-on-one situations must be avoided unless they are open and observable by another adult or Athlete.
 - iii. Persons in Authority shall not invite or have a Vulnerable Participant (or Vulnerable Participants) in their home without the written permission and contemporaneous knowledge of the Vulnerable Participant’s parent or guardian.
 - iv. Vulnerable Participants must not be in any situation where they are alone with a Person in Authority without another screened adult or Athlete present unless prior written permission is obtained from the Vulnerable Participant’s parent or guardian

Practices and Events

4. As it relates to practices and/or competitions, the following shall be respected:
 - a) A Person in Authority should never be alone with a Vulnerable Participant prior to or following a competition or practice unless the Person in Authority is the Vulnerable Participant's parent or guardian.
 - b) If the Vulnerable Participant is the first Athlete to arrive, the Vulnerable Participant's parent should remain until another Athlete or Person in Authority arrives.
 - c) If a Vulnerable Participant would potentially be alone with a Person in Authority following a competition or practice, the Person in Authority should ask another Person in Authority (or a parent or guardian of another Athlete) to stay until all of the Athletes have been picked up. If an adult is unavailable, another Athlete, who is preferably not a Vulnerable Individual, should be present in order to avoid the Person in Authority being alone with a Vulnerable Participant
 - d) Persons in Authority giving instructions, demonstrating skills, or facilitating drills or lessons to an individual Athlete should always do so within earshot and eyesight of another Person in Authority
 - e) If there is a concern with observing the Rule of Two, Persons in Authority and Athletes should take additional steps to achieve transparency and accountability in their interactions.

Communications

5. Communications between Persons in Authority and Athletes shall respect the following:
 - a) Group messages, group emails or team pages are to be used as the regular method of communication between Persons in Authority and Athletes
 - b) Persons in Authority may only send personal texts, direct messages on social media or emails to individual Athletes when necessary and only for communicating information related to team issues and activities (e.g., non-personal information). Any such texts, messages or emails shall be professional in tone and must be copied to another adult when the Athlete is a Vulnerable Participant.
 - c) No personal texts between Vulnerable Participants and Persons in Authority may be sent; however, if this is necessary under Section 5(b), it shall include one other adult person on the message (preferably the Vulnerable Participant's parent(s)/guardian(s)).
 - d) Parents and guardians may request that their child not be contacted by a Person in Authority using any form of electronic communication and/or to request that certain information about their child may not be distributed in any form of electronic communications
 - e) All communication between a Person in Authority and Athletes must be between the hours of 6:00am and 11:00pm unless extenuating circumstances justify otherwise (e.g., cancelling an early morning practice)
 - f) Communications concerning drugs or alcohol use (unless regarding its prohibition) is not permitted
 - g) No sexually explicit language or imagery or sexually oriented conversation may be communicated by any medium
 - h) Persons in Authority and Athletes are not permitted to offer or ask one another to keep a secret for them

Virtual settings

6. The Rule of Two shall apply to all Minors in a virtual environment. Specifically:
 - a) For Athletes under the age of 16, where possible, a parent/guardian should be present during any virtual session;
 - b) Two adult coaches should be present or one coach and one adult (parent, guardian, volunteer, club administrator). One-on-one virtual sessions are prohibited;
 - c) Coaches shall be informed by SRA of the expected standards of conduct during virtual sessions;

- d) Parents/guardians of Minors shall be informed by SRA of the activities that will take place during the virtual session, as well as the process of the virtual session;
- e) Parents/guardians of Minors shall provide consent to the Minor participating in the virtual session, if irregularly scheduled, or prior to the first session if the sessions will take place on a regular basis;
- f) Communications during virtual sessions shall take place in an open and observable environment. Sessions must be initiated in appropriate locations (i.e., not in personal or inappropriate locations such as bedrooms);
- g) Virtual sessions should be recorded whenever allowed by the technology being used;
- h) Parents/guardians should debrief with Minors on a weekly basis regarding virtual sessions.

Travel

- 7. Any travel involving Persons in Authority and Athletes shall respect the following:
 - a) Teams or groups of Athletes shall always have at least two Persons in Authority with them
 - b) For mixed gender teams or groups of Athletes, there will be one Person in Authority from each gender
 - c) Screened parents or other volunteers will be available in situations when two Persons in Authority cannot be present
 - d) No Person in Authority may drive a vehicle with an Athlete alone unless the Person in Authority is the Athlete's parent or guardian
 - e) A Person in Authority may not share a room or be alone in a hotel room with an Athlete unless the Person in Authority is the Athlete's parent or guardian
 - f) Room or bed checks during overnight stays must be done by two Persons in Authority
 - g) For overnight travel when Athletes must share a hotel room, roommates will be age-appropriate and, for Minors, shall be within two years of age of one another and of the same gender identity

Locker Room / Changing Areas

- 8. The following shall apply to locker rooms, changing areas, regatta weigh-in area(s), and meeting rooms:
 - a) Interactions (i.e., conversation) between Persons in Authority and Athletes should not occur in any room where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy such as a locker room, regatta weigh-in area(s), restroom or changing area. A second adult should be present for any necessary interaction between an adult and an Athlete in any such room. The Rule of Two must be respected.
 - b) If Persons in Authority are not present in the locker room or changing area, or if they are not permitted to be present, they should still be available outside the locker room or changing area and be able to enter the room or area if required, including but not limited to team communications and/or emergency

Photography / Video

- 9. Any photograph or video involving Athletes shall respect the following:
 - a) Photographs and video may only be taken in public view, must observe generally accepted standards of decency, and be both appropriate for and in the best interest of the Athlete.
 - b) The use of recording devices of any kind in rooms where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy is strictly prohibited.
 - c) Examples of photos that shall be edited or deleted include:
 - i. Images with misplaced apparel or where undergarments are showing
 - ii. Suggestive or provocative poses
 - iii. Embarrassing images
 - d) If any photographs or videos will be used on any form of public media, an Image Consent Form must be

completed before any images are taken and used

Physical Contact

10. It is recognized that some physical contact between Persons in Authority and Athletes may be necessary for various reasons including, but not limited to, teaching a skill or tending to an injury. Any physical contact shall respect the following:
- a) Unless it is otherwise impossible because of serious injury or other justifiable circumstance, a Person in Authority must always clarify with an Athlete where and why any physical contact will occur prior to the contact occurring. The Person in Authority must make clear that he or she is requesting to touch the Athlete and not requiring physical contact
 - b) Infrequent, non-intentional physical contact during a training session is permitted
 - c) Hugs lasting longer than five seconds, cuddling, physical horseplay, and physical contact initiated by the Person in Authority is not permitted. It is recognized that some Athletes may initiate hugging or other physical contact with a Person in Authority for various reasons (e.g., such as crying or celebrating after a performance), but this physical contact may only occur in an open and observable environment.

Enforcement

11. Any alleged violations of this *Athlete Protection Policy* shall be addressed pursuant to SRA's *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Privacy

12. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

Appendix A – Image Consent Form

1. I hereby grant to [Insert Name of Member organization(s)], and RCA and, as applicable, my Provincial Rowing Association and Club (collectively the “Organizations”) on a worldwide basis, the permission to photograph and/or record the Participant’s image and/or voice on still or motion picture film and/or audio tape (collectively the “Images”), and to use the Images to promote the sport and/or the Organizations through traditional media such as newsletters, websites, television, film, radio, print and/or display form, and through social media such as Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. I understand that I waive any claim to remuneration for use of audio/visual materials used for these purposes. This consent will remain in effect in perpetuity; however, consent may be withdrawn by the Participant by the Participant notifying SRA of such withdrawal in writing.
2. I hereby fully release, discharge, and agree to save harmless the Organizations, for any and all claims, demands, actions, damages, losses or costs that might arise out of the collection, use or disclosure of the Images or taking, publication, distortion of the Images, negatives, and masters or any other likeness or representation of the Participant that may occur or be produced in the taking of said Images or in any subsequent processing thereof, including without limitation any claims for libel, passing off, misappropriation of personality or invasion of privacy.
3. **I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE**, that I have read and understood the terms and conditions of this document. On behalf of me, my heirs and assigns, I agree that I am signing this document voluntarily and to abide by such terms and conditions.

Signed at this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Print Name of Participant: _____

Signature of Participant: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if Participant is younger than the age of majority):

SRA

CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Code is to ensure a safe and positive environment within the programs, activities, and Events of SRA by making Individuals aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behaviour consistent with the applicable organization's core values and policies. SRA supports equal opportunity, prohibits discriminatory practices, and is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals can safely participate in our sport and are treated with respect and fairness.

Application of this Code

2. This Code applies to any Individual's conduct during the business, activities, and Events of SRA including, but not limited to, competitions, practices, evaluations (including time trials or any other form of testing), treatment or consultations (i.e., massage therapy), training camps, travel associated with organizational activities, the office environment, and any meetings or social Events.
3. This Code also applies to Individuals' conduct outside of the business, activities, and Events of SRA when such conduct adversely affects the organization's relationships (and the work and sport environment) or is detrimental to the image and reputation of SRA. Such applicability will be determined by SRA at its sole discretion.
4. This Code applies to Individuals active in the sport of rowing or who have retired from the sport of rowing where any claim regarding a potential breach of this Code occurred when the Individual was active in the sport.
5. In addition, breaches of this Code may occur when the Individuals involved interacted due to their mutual involvement in the sport of rowing or, if the breach occurred outside of the sport environment, if the breach has a serious and detrimental impact on the Individual(s).
6. Any Individual who violates this Code may be subject to sanctions pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*. In addition to facing possible sanctions pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*, an Individual who violates this Code during a competition may be removed from the competition or training area, and the Individual may be subject to further sanctions.

UCCMS

7. The Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) was adopted by SRA on June 12 2022 and shall be incorporated into this Code by reference as if set out in full herein. Any modifications or amendments made to the UCCMS by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport shall come into effect immediately upon their adoption by the SDRCC, without the need for any further action by SRA or its Members.

Responsibilities

8. Individuals have a responsibility to:
 - a) Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of other Individuals by:
 - i. Treating each other with the highest standards of respect and integrity;
 - ii. Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of Athletes, coaches, umpires, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees, or other participants;
 - iii. Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership, and ethical conduct;
 - iv. Acting to correct or prevent practices that are unjustly discriminatory;
 - v. Consistently treating individuals fairly and reasonably; and
 - vi. Ensuring adherence to the rules of the sport and the spirit of those rules.
 - b) Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes Harassment, Workplace Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Workplace Violence, Discrimination or any form of Maltreatment
 - c) Refrain from the use of power or authority in an attempt to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities
 - d) Refrain from consuming tobacco products, cannabis, or recreational drugs while participating in the programs, activities, Events of SRA or representing SRA at any such activities or Events;
 - e) In the case of Minors, not consume alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis at any Event;
 - f) In the case of adults, not consume cannabis in the Workplace or in any situation associated with the Events of SRA (subject to any requirements for accommodation), not consume alcohol during competitions and in situations where minors are present, and take reasonable steps to manage the responsible consumption of alcohol in adult-oriented social situations
 - g) Respect the property of others and not wilfully cause damage
 - h) Promote sport in the most constructive and positive manner possible
 - i) When driving a vehicle or operating a coach boat or safety launch:
 - i. Not have his or her license suspended;
 - ii. Obey traffic laws at all times;
 - iii. Not be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis or illegal drugs or intoxicating substances;
 - iv. Have valid insurance; and
 - v. Refrain from using a mobile device or engaging in any activity that would constitute distracted driving.
 - j) Adhere to all federal, provincial, municipal and host country laws
 - k) Refrain from engaging in deliberate cheating which is intended to manipulate the outcome of a competition or para-classification, and/or refrain from offering or receiving any benefit which is intended to manipulate the outcome of a competition. A benefit includes the direct or indirect receipt of money or other anything else of value, including, but not limited to, bribes, gains, gifts, preferential treatment, and other advantages
 - l) Comply, at all times, with the bylaws, policies, procedures, and rules and regulations of RCA and its Members, as applicable and as adopted and amended from time to time

- m) Report any ongoing criminal or anti-doping investigation, conviction, or existing bail conditions involving an Individual to the Independent Third Party, including, but not limited to, those for violence, child pornography, or possession, use, or sale of any illegal or Prohibited Substance or Method

Directors, Committee Members, and Staff

9. In addition to section 8 (above), directors, committee members, and staff of SRA will have additional responsibilities to:
- a) When performing their role as a director or committee member or staff member of SRA (as applicable), ensure that they respect their duty of loyalty to SRA, and refrain from engaging in any activity or behaviour that could constitute a conflict of interest
 - b) Ensure their loyalty prioritizes the interests of SRA
 - c) Act with honesty and integrity and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the nature and responsibilities of the business and the maintenance of Individuals' confidence
 - d) Ensure that financial affairs are conducted in a responsible and transparent manner with due regard for all fiduciary responsibilities
 - e) If applicable, comply with the *Screening Policy*, including understanding ongoing expectations under the *Screening Policy* and fully cooperating in the screening process
 - f) Conduct themselves openly, professionally, lawfully and in good faith
 - g) Be independent and impartial and not be influenced by self-interest, outside pressure, expectation of reward, or fear of criticism
 - h) Behave with decorum appropriate to both circumstance and position
 - i) Exercise the degree of care, diligence, and skill required in the performance of their duties pursuant to applicable laws
 - j) Respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature
 - k) Respect the decisions of the majority and resign if unable to do so
 - l) Commit the time to attend meetings and be diligent in preparation for, and participation in, discussions at such meetings
 - m) Have knowledge and understanding of all relevant policies and procedures

In addition to the responsibilities described above, one board member and the PSO Safe Sport Liaison must also complete the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport's Governance Essentials e-learning course.

Coaches

10. In addition to section 8 (above), coaches have many additional responsibilities. The coach-Athlete relationship is a privileged one and plays a critical role in the personal, sport, and athletic development of the Athlete. Coaches must understand and respect the inherent Power Imbalance that exists in this relationship and must not abuse it, either consciously or unintentionally. Coaches will:
- a) Avoid any behaviour that abuses the Power Imbalance inherent to their position as a coach
 - b) Ensure a safe environment by selecting activities and establishing controls that are suitable for the age, experience, ability, and fitness level of the Athletes
 - c) Prepare Athletes systematically and progressively, using appropriate time frames and monitoring physical and psychological adjustments while refraining from using training methods or techniques that may harm Athletes
 - d) Avoid compromising the present and future health of Athletes by communicating and cooperating with sport medicine professionals (where applicable) in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of Athletes' medical and psychological treatments

- e) Support the coaching staff of a training camp, provincial team, or national team, should an Athlete qualify for participation with one of these programs
- f) Accept and promote Athletes' personal goals and refer Athletes to other coaches and sport specialists as appropriate
- g) Provide Athletes (and the parents/guardians of minor Athletes) with the information necessary to be involved in the decisions that affect the Athlete
- h) Act in the best interest of the Athlete's development as a whole person
- a) Comply with the *Screening Policy*, including understanding ongoing expectations under the *Screening Policy* and fully cooperating in the screening process
- i) Comply with all established responsibilities and obligations as set out by the coach's professional governing body, if any
- j) Under no circumstances provide, promote, or condone the use of drugs (other than properly prescribed medications) or Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods and, in the case of minors, alcohol, cannabis, and/or tobacco
- k) Respect Athletes competing for other clubs, provinces or countries and, in dealings with them, not discuss topics or take actions which are deemed to be within the realm of 'coaching', unless after first receiving approval from the coaches who are responsible for the Athletes
- l) Not engage in a sexual or intimate relationship with an Athlete of any age in which the coach is in a position of trust or authority
- m) Recognize the power inherent in the position of coach and respect and promote the rights of all participants in sport. This is accomplished by establishing and following procedures for confidentiality (right to privacy), informed participation, and fair and reasonable treatment. Coaches have a special responsibility to respect and promote the rights of participants who are in a vulnerable or dependent position and less able to protect their own rights
- n) Dress appropriately
- o) Use inoffensive language, and take the audience being addressed into account (e.g., the age/maturity of the participants)

Athletes

11. In addition to section 8 (above), Athletes will have additional responsibilities to:
- a) Adhere to their athlete agreement (if applicable)
 - b) Report any medical problems in a timely fashion, when such problems may limit their ability to travel, practice, or compete
 - c) Participate and appear on-time and prepared to participate to their best abilities in all competitions, practices, training sessions, and evaluations (including time controls or any other form of testing)
 - d) Properly represent themselves and not attempt to participate in a competition for which they are not eligible by reason of age, classification, or other reason
 - e) Adhere to any rules and requirements regarding clothing and equipment
 - f) Dress to represent the sport and themselves appropriately
 - g) Act in accordance with applicable policies and procedures and, when applicable, additional rules as outlined by coaches or managers

Umpires

12. In addition to section 8 (above) and Section 11.5 in the RCA Rules of Racing, umpires will have additional responsibilities to:
- a) Maintain and update their knowledge of the Rules of Racing and any rule changes

- b) Not publicly criticize any Individual
- c) Place the safety and welfare of competitors, and the fairness of the competition above all else
- d) Strive to provide a fair sporting environment, and at no time engage in Maltreatment of any person on the field of play
- e) Work within the boundaries of their position's description while supporting the work of other umpires and follow the direction of Chief Umpires
- f) Act as an ambassador of the sport of rowing by agreeing to enforce and abide by national and provincial rules and regulations
- g) Take ownership of actions and decisions made while umpiring
- h) Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all Individuals
- i) Act openly, impartially, professionally, lawfully, and in good faith
- j) Be fair, equitable, considerate, independent, honest, and impartial in all dealings with others
- k) Respect the confidentiality required by issues of a sensitive nature, which may include discipline processes, appeals, and specific information or data about Individuals
- l) Comply with the *Screening Policy*, including understanding ongoing expectations under the *Screening Policy* and fully cooperating in the screening process
- m) Honour all assignments unless unable to do so by virtue of illness or personal emergency, in which case they must communicate their situation to the individual(s) responsible for assignments as soon as possible, including, if already at a regatta, the Chief Umpire
- n) When writing reports, set out the actual facts to the best of their knowledge and recollection
- o) Dress in appropriate attire for umpiring
- p) Never umpire at a Saskatchewan regatta that is not sanctioned by SRA

Parents/Guardians and Spectators

13. In addition to section 8 (above), parents/guardians and spectators at Events will, at all times:
- a) Encourage Athletes to compete within the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence
 - b) Condemn the use of violence in any form
 - c) Never ridicule a participant during a competition or practice
 - d) Respect the decisions and judgments of umpires and officials, and encourage Athletes to do the same
 - e) Support all efforts to eliminate verbal and physical abuse, coercion, intimidation, and sarcasm
 - f) Respect all competitors, coaches, umpires, officials and other volunteers
 - g) Never harass competitors, coaches, umpires, officials, parents/guardians, or other spectators

Anti-Doping¹

14. All Individuals shall:

- a) Abstain from the non-medical use of medications or drugs or the use of Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods as listed on the version of the World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List currently in force. More specifically, SRA adopts and adheres to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program. SRA will respect any sanction imposed on an Individual as a result of a breach of the [Canadian Anti-Doping Program](#) or any other applicable Anti-Doping Rules

¹ Any capitalized terms used in this Anti-Doping section shall, unless the context requires otherwise, have the meanings ascribed to them in the Definitions section of the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.

- b) Refrain from associating with any person for the purpose of coaching, training, competition, instruction, administration, management, athletic development, or supervision, who has been found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation and is serving a period of ineligibility imposed pursuant to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program or any other applicable anti-doping rules
 - c) Cooperate with any Anti-Doping Organization that is conducting an investigation into any anti-doping rule violation(s)
 - d) Refrain from any offensive conduct toward a Doping Control official or other individual involved in Doping Control, whether or not such conduct constitutes Tampering as defined in the Canadian Anti-Doping Program
15. All Athlete Support Personnel or other Persons who are Using a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method without a valid and acceptable justification shall refrain from providing support to Athletes that fall under RCA, SRA or any other Members' jurisdiction.

Retaliation, Retribution or Reprisal

16. It is a breach of this Code of Conduct and Ethics for any Individual to engage in any act that threatens or seeks to intimidate another individual with the intent of discouraging that Individual from filing, in good faith, a Report pursuant to any SRA policy. It is also a breach of this Code of Conduct and Ethics for an Individual to remove opportunities, privileges or any other benefit from an Individual who has filed a Report against them or to file a Report for the purpose of retaliation, retribution or reprisal against any other Individual. Any Individual found to be in breach of this section shall be liable for the costs related to the disciplinary process required to establish such a breach.

Privacy

17. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

SASKATCHEWAN ROWING ASSOCIATION
DISCIPLINE AND COMPLAINTS POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	Investigations Policy 2022; Privacy Policy 2022

Purpose

1. Individuals are expected to fulfill certain responsibilities and obligations including, but not limited to, complying with the policies, Bylaws, rules and regulations of Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA), the SRA and any other RCA Member. Non-compliance may result in the imposition of sanctions pursuant to this Policy.

Application of this Policy

2. This Policy applies to all Individuals and to any alleged breaches of SRA's policies, bylaws, rules or regulations.
3. This Policy applies to matters that may arise during the business, activities, and Events of the SRA including, but not limited to, competitions, on and off water training, evaluations (including time trials or any other form of testing), treatment or consultations (i.e., massage therapy), training camps, travel associated with SRA activities, and any meetings.
4. This Policy also applies to Individuals' conduct outside of the business, activities, and Events of SRA when such conduct adversely affects SRA's relationships (and the work and sport environment) or is detrimental to the image and reputation of SRA, or upon the acceptance of SRA.
5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this Policy applies to alleged breaches of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* by Individuals who have retired from the sport of rowing where any claim regarding a potential breach of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* occurred when the Individual was active in the sport. In addition, this Policy will apply to breaches of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* that occurred when the Individuals involved interacted due to their mutual involvement in the sport of rowing or, if the breach occurred outside of the sport environment, if the breach has a serious and detrimental impact on the Individual(s).

If an Individual makes a complaint or Reports an incident that occurred at a time during which a different SRA policy was in force (i.e., Code of Conduct and Ethics, Discipline and Complaints Policy), the matter will be governed by the substantive rules in the policy in force at the time that the incident occurred to determine whether an offense or breach of the policy has occurred, unless the panel hearing the matter determines that the principle of *lex mitior* applies to the circumstances of the case; however, for such cases, this *Discipline and Complaints Policy* will apply retroactively, prior to its approval date, as it relates to procedural matters.

Applicability of this Policy will be determined by the Independent Third Party at their sole discretion and shall not be subject to appeal.

6. In addition to being subject to disciplinary action pursuant to this *Discipline and Complaints Policy*, an employee of SRA who is a Respondent to a Report may also be subject to consequences in accordance with the employee's employment agreement, if applicable, or SRA's human resources or other applicable policies.
7. SRA will adhere to all disclosure and reporting responsibilities required by any government entity, local police force, or child protection agency.

Minors

8. Complaints may be brought for or against an Individual who is a Minor. Minors must have a parent/guardian or other adult serve as their representative during this process. Any Individual who Reports or brings a complaint involving known or suspected abuse, neglect or Maltreatment of a Minor on behalf of the Minor must Report this to local child welfare services, the applicable provincial or territorial social service ministries or departments, or local police.
9. Communication from the Independent Third Party, Case Manager, Complaint Resolution Officer or discipline panel, as applicable, must be directed to the Minor's representative.
10. If the Minor's representative is not their parent/guardian, the representative must have written permission to act in such a capacity from the Minor's parent/guardian.
11. A Minor is not required to attend an oral hearing, if held.

Reporting a Complaint

Abuse-Free Sport Participants

12. Incidents that involve alleged Maltreatment or Prohibited Behaviour involving an Abuse-Free Sport Participant must be reported to the OSIC and will be addressed pursuant to the OSIC's policies and procedures.
13. OSIC shall determine the admissibility of such complaints in accordance with the terms of the Abuse-Free Sport Participant Consent Form and the relevant and applicable OSIC Guidelines regarding the initial review and preliminary assessment, at their sole discretion.
14. If the RCA or Sask Sport Independent Third Party receives a complaint that they consider would otherwise fall within the above sections, they shall refer the matter to the OSIC and notify the Individual(s) that made the complaint of such action within seven days of referring the matter to the OSIC.
15. Any complaints involving breaches of SRA's policies that do not fall within Section 12 above must be Reported in writing by an Individual (or Individuals) to RCA's identified Independent Third Party¹ within fourteen (14) days of the occurrence of the incident. This timeline may be waived at the RCA Independent Third Party's sole discretion if they consider that there were extenuating circumstances that prevented the Individual from Reporting their complaint within fourteen (14) days of the occurrence of the incident. For

¹ The Independent Third Party's contact information can be found on RCA's website: <https://rowingcanada.org/safe-sport/>

the avoidance of doubt, this includes Reported complaints referred back to RCA by the OSIC following a determination made by the OSIC that a complaint initially reported to it does not fall within its jurisdiction. The OSIC is not required to comply with the deadline specified in this Section 15.

Where a complaint is received by the RCA Independent Third Party and it is determined that it should be dealt with by SRA or one of its Members under this *Discipline and Complaints Policy*, it shall be reported directly to the Sask Sport Independent Third Party, who shall discharge their responsibilities in accordance with this Policy.

16. A Complainant who fears retribution or reprisal or who otherwise considers that their identity must remain confidential may Report a complaint to the RCA Independent Third Party and request that their identity be kept confidential. If the RCA Independent Third Party considers that the Complainant's identity must remain confidential, the RCA Independent Third Party may ask that SRA take carriage of the complaint and act as the Complainant pursuant to Section 23 below.
17. If the RCA Independent Third Party considers that it is unnecessary to keep the Complainant's identity confidential, they shall inform the Complainant, who may decide whether or not to pursue the Reported complaint. However, the RCA Independent Third Party may not reveal the identity of the Complainant unless the Complainant expressly informs them of their desire to pursue the complaint and has indicated, in writing, their approval to have their identity divulged.

Independent Third Party Responsibilities

18. Upon receipt of a Reported complaint from an Individual (or Individuals), the RCA Independent Third Party shall:
 - determine whether the complaint falls within the jurisdiction of this Policy;
 - if it can be accepted pursuant to Section 15 above; and
 - whether it is either a frivolous or vexatious complaint, or if it has been made in bad faith.²

If the Reported complaint is not accepted by the RCA Independent Third Party for any of the aforementioned reasons, the RCA Independent Third Party shall inform the Complainant and provide the reasons for which the complaint was not accepted. If the Reported complaint is not accepted because it does not fall within the jurisdiction of this Policy but would fall within the jurisdiction of another sport's policy(ies), the RCA Independent Third Party shall inform the Complainant(s) so that they may Report their complaint to the appropriate organization. If the Reported complaint is accepted by the RCA Independent Third Party, the RCA Independent Third Party shall proceed to make the determinations indicated in Sections 24 and 25 below and notify the Parties accordingly that the Reported complaint has been accepted.

19. In cases where the RCA Independent Third Party receives a complaint or Report involving known or suspected abuse, neglect or Maltreatment of a Minor, they shall report this to local child welfare services, the applicable provincial or territorial social service ministries or departments, or local police. The RCA Independent Third Party shall not be responsible for fulfilling the aforementioned obligation if the Individual making the complaint or filing the Report confirms in writing that they have already reported to any such authorities.

² As indicated in the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada's Investigation Guidelines, a Reported complaint shall not be characterized as vexatious if the evidence demonstrates that there was a reasonable basis for filing and pursuing it. For a complaint to be considered to have been made in bad faith, the Independent Third Party must consider that it was filed consciously for a dishonest purpose or due to the moral underhandedness of the Complainant and that there was an intention to mislead.

20. If a Reported complaint has been accepted by the RCA Independent Third Party pursuant to Section 18, the RCA Independent Third Party shall determine whether the Reported incident has occurred within the Club, SRA or RCA's business, activities or Events as described in Section 3. If the incident has occurred outside of the business, activities or Events of any of these organizations, the RCA Independent Third Party will determine which organization's relationships are adversely affected or which organization's image or reputation will be detrimentally affected by the incident as described in Section 4, or if the breach has had a serious and detrimental impact on the Individual(s), as described in Section 5 above.
21. Except for when the RCA Independent Third Party directs a Reported complaint to be managed by RCA pursuant to Section 22 and the RCA Safe Sport Policy Suite, the RCA Independent Third Party shall direct a Reported complaint to be managed by the Sask Sport Independent Third Party:
- if the Reported incident occurred within the business, activities or Events of the SRA or one of its clubs, as described in Section 3; or
 - if the incident has occurred outside of the business, activities or Events of SRA or one of its Clubs, but the RCA Independent Third Party determines that one of these organization's relationships would be adversely affected or that one of these organization's image or reputation will be detrimentally affected by the incident as described in Section 4, or if the breach has had a serious and detrimental impact on the Individual(s) from SRA or one of its clubs, as described in Section 5.
22. In exceptional circumstances, the RCA Independent Third Party may direct a Reported complaint to be managed by RCA if the SRA is otherwise unable to manage the complaint for valid and justifiable reasons, such as a conflict of interest or due to a lack of capacity.
23. Notwithstanding any provision in this Policy, the SRA may, at its discretion, or upon request by the RCA or Sask Sport Independent Third Party in accordance with Section 16, act as the Complainant and initiate the complaint Reporting process under the terms of this Policy. In such cases, the SRA will identify an individual to represent the organization.
24. The Sask Sport Independent Third Party shall direct a Reported complaint to be managed by the Complaint Resolution Officer appointed by the SRA if the Complainant alleges that any of the following incidents have occurred:
- a) Disrespectful conduct or behaviour
 - b) Minor acts of physical violence (i.e., pinching, shoving, intentionally blocking another person from their desired path, throwing an object at another person), unless the physical violence is between a Person in Authority and a Vulnerable Participant, in which case the matter will fall under Section 21 below
 - c) Conduct contrary to the values of the SRA
 - d) Conduct that intentionally interferes with a competition or with any Athlete's preparation for a competition
 - e) Non-compliance with the SRA's policies, procedures, rules, or regulations
 - f) Minor violations of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, *Social Media Policy*, or the *Athlete Protection Policy*

*[Comment to Article 24: Where any of the above-mentioned **incidents occur on the field of play**, they shall be addressed through the policy/process applicable to the field of play incident, and by the individual with appropriate authority under that policy/process, subject to an Individual's right to file a Report regarding the incident pursuant to this Policy.]*

25. Subject to Section 14, the Independent Third Party shall direct a Reported complaint to be managed by a Case Manager appointed by the SRA if the Complainant alleges that any of the following incidents have occurred:

- a) Repeated incidents pursuant to Section 24
- b) Abusive, racist, or sexist comments, conduct or behaviour
- c) Any incident of hazing
- d) Behaviour that constitutes Maltreatment, Prohibited Behaviour, Workplace Harassment or Harassment
- e) Major incidents of physical violence (e.g., fighting, attacking)
- f) Pranks, jokes, or other activities that endanger the safety of others
- g) Conduct that intentionally damages the SRA's image, credibility, or reputation
- h) Consistent disregard for the SRA's bylaws, policies, rules, and regulations
- i) Major or repeated violations of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, *Social Media Policy*, or *Athlete Protection Policy*
- j) Intentionally damaging the SRA's property or improperly handling the organization's monies
- k) Abusive use of alcohol or any other intoxicating substance, any use or possession of alcohol or any other intoxicating substance by Minors, or use or possession of illicit drugs and narcotics
- l) A conviction for any *Criminal Code* offense

Investigations

26. In exceptional circumstances, and only when the Sask Sport Independent Third Party considers that the conditions indicated in this section have been satisfied, the Sask Sport Independent Third Party may determine that a Reported incident requires further investigation by an independent third-party investigator. The Sask Sport Independent Third Party may direct that an investigation be conducted:

- i. Only if the Reported incident falls within Section 25 above;
- In accordance with and by an independent investigator appointed pursuant to the *Investigations Policy – Discrimination, Harassment and Maltreatment*;
 - Where the Sask Sport Independent Third Party considers that there is a need for an independent assessment to determine whether an allegation or, where there are several allegations, which allegations, should be heard by a discipline panel pursuant to this Policy because they constitute a likely breach of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, the *Social Media Policy*, the *Athlete Protection Policy*, or any other relevant and applicable SRA policy, or whether the allegations frivolous, vexatious or made in bad faith;³ and
 - For the purpose of making non-binding recommendations to the Independent Third Party so that they may discharge their responsibilities pursuant to this Policy.

If the Independent Third Party considers that an independent investigation must be conducted for the reasons mentioned above, the investigation shall be conducted before any disciplinary procedures are commenced pursuant to this Policy; however, when an investigation is conducted and where it is necessary in the circumstances, interim measures may be imposed in accordance with Section 27-29.

Upon receipt of the investigator's report, the Independent Third Party shall determine whether the matter will proceed pursuant to Sections 40 and below and shall inform the Parties and the SRA.

³ Please see footnote 2, modified accordingly for the circumstances of an investigation.

If the Independent Third Party does not consider that an independent investigation is necessary and the Reported complaint has been accepted pursuant to Section 15, the matter shall proceed pursuant to Sections 40 and following below.

Provisional Suspensions

27. If it is considered appropriate or necessary on the basis of the circumstances, immediate discipline or the imposition of a Provisional Suspension or interim measures may be imposed against any Individual by the Executive Director of SRA (or their designate)⁴ upon the recommendation of the Independent Third Party (except where there are time constraints)⁵ after which further discipline or sanctions may be applied according to this Policy. SRA will communicate any decision to impose a Provisional Suspension or interim measures to the Parties involved and to any other Individual or organization that is required to receive such information in order to ensure that the Provisional Suspension or interim measure can be implemented as directed.
28. If an infraction occurs at a competition, it will be dealt with by the procedures specific to the competition, if applicable. Provisional Suspensions or interim measures may be imposed for the duration of a competition, training, activity, or Event only, or as otherwise determined appropriate by the Executive Director of SRA.⁶
29. Notwithstanding the above, SRA may determine that an alleged incident is of such seriousness as to warrant the imposition of a Provisional Suspension of a Respondent pending completion of an investigation, assessment and/investigation by the OSIC, criminal process, the hearing, or a decision of the discipline panel.
30. Any Respondent against whom a Provisional Suspension or interim measure is imposed may make a request to the Independent Third Party or the discipline panel (if appointed) to have the Provisional Suspension or interim measure lifted. In such circumstances, SRA shall be provided with an opportunity to make submissions, orally or in writing, regarding the Respondent's request to have their Provisional Suspension lifted. Provisional Suspensions or interim measures shall only be lifted in circumstances where the Respondent establishes that it would be manifestly unfair to maintain the Provisional Suspension or interim measure against them.
31. Any decision not to lift a Provisional Suspension or interim measure shall not be subject to appeal.

Complaint Handled by Complaints Resolution Officer

32. Following the Sask Sport Independent Third Party's determination that the Reported complaint or incident shall be managed by a Complaint Resolution Officer appointed pursuant to Section 24 above, the Sask Sport Independent Third Party shall encourage the Parties to attempt to resolve the matter through mediation pursuant to the *Dispute Resolution Policy*.⁷ If the Parties do not agree to pursue mediation, or if mediation is attempted but is unsuccessful, the Sask Sport Independent Third Party, in collaboration with the Safe Sport Liaison, will appoint a Complaint Resolution

⁴ The term 'designate' includes the person with authority to impose a Provisional Suspension according to the situation.

⁵ Where there are time constraints, the Executive Director may impose a Provisional Suspension or interim measures against an Individual without seeking a recommendation from the Independent Third Party.

⁶ In-competition discipline or sanction imposed by the applicable official or authority does not prevent an Individual from facing additional disciplinary proceedings under the Code of Conduct and Ethics.

⁷ If mediation is not attempted, or is initially unsuccessful, the Parties are still permitted to resolve the dispute amicably through mediation at any time prior to a final decision being rendered by the Complaint Resolution Officer.

Officer.⁸ The Complaint Resolution Officer appointed to handle a Reported complaint or incident must be unbiased and not in a conflict of interest situation with any of the Parties.

33. The Complaint Resolution Officer will ask the Complainant and the Respondent for written submissions (taking any accessibility requirements into consideration) regarding the Reported complaint or incident. Both Parties shall also have the right to submit to the Complaint Resolution Officer any relevant evidence, including, but not limited to witness statements, documentary evidence or evidence from other media (i.e., photos, screenshots, videos or other recordings).
34. Each Party shall have the right to receive the other Party's submissions and evidence, including the Complainant's complaint. If the matter before the Complaint Resolution Officer involves a Complainant who wishes to keep their identity confidential, the Complaint Resolution Officer may redact documents as they consider reasonably necessary to protect the confidentiality of the Individual, but only to the extent that any redactions do not compromise the Respondent's procedural fairness rights. In the case of oral submissions, each Party shall have the right to be present when such submissions are made.
35. Following receipt of the Parties' submissions, the Complaint Resolution Officer may (but is not required to) convene the Parties to a meeting, either in person or by way of video or teleconference, in order to ask the Parties questions and/or, if permitted by the Complaint Resolution Officer, to allow the Parties to ask questions of one another.
36. Following their review of the submissions and evidence related to the Reported complaint or incident, the Complaint Resolution Officer shall determine if any of the incidents listed in Section 20 above have occurred and, if so, if one or more of the following sanctions should be applied:
 - a) Verbal or written reprimand
 - b) Verbal or written apology
 - c) Service or other contribution to the SRA
 - d) Removal of certain privileges
 - e) Suspension from certain teams, Events, and/or activities
 - f) Suspension from certain activities for a designated period
 - g) Any other sanction considered appropriate for the offense
 - h) Education or training opportunities

If, after hearing the Parties and reviewing their submissions, the Complaint Resolution Officer considers that none of the incidents listed in Section 24 above have occurred, they shall dismiss the Reported complaint.

37. The Complaint Resolution Officer will inform the Parties of their decision, in writing and with reasons. Any sanction imposed shall take effect upon the Parties' receipt of the decision. Should the circumstances require a decision to be rendered immediately or within a short timeline, the Complaint Resolution Officer may render a short decision, either orally or in writing, followed by a written reasoned decision.

⁸ In order to ensure that the process advances in a timely manner, the Independent Third Party may proceed with the appointment of a Complaint Resolution Officer without collaborating with the Safe Sport Liaison if the matter is urgent or they are unable to obtain a recommendation from the Safe Sport Liaison within five (5) days of making the decision that the matter will be heard through the Complaint Resolution Officer process.

38. Any decision rendered by the Complaint Resolution Officer shall be provided to and maintained in the records of the SRA and RCA. Decisions will be kept confidential by the parties and the aforementioned organizations and shall be retained and discarded in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation.
39. Any decision rendered by a Complaint Resolution Officer is final and not subject to appeal.

**Handled by Discipline Panel
Case Manager**

40. If the Independent Third Party determines that the Reported complaint or incident should be referred to a Case Manager appointed by SRA pursuant to Section 25 above, the SRA shall appoint a Case Manager to fulfil the responsibilities listed in Sections 41 and following. Any determinations made by the Case Manager must be followed by the SRA and/or the relevant club(s), as applicable. The Case Manager shall not be in a conflict of interest or have a direct relationship with any of the Parties.
41. The Case Manager appointed by the SRA will have the responsibility to:
- a) Propose and, where appropriate based on the circumstances, encourage the use of the *Dispute Resolution Policy*;
 - b) Appoint the discipline panel, if necessary;
 - c) Coordinate all administrative aspects and set timelines;
 - d) Provide administrative assistance and logistical support to the discipline panel as required, including providing the discipline panel with any information related to previously established infractions committed by the Respondent(s) of the policies of RCA, the SRA or any other Member or any other sport organization that had authority over the Respondent;
 - e) Provide any other service or support that may be necessary to ensure a fair and timely proceeding;
 - f) Liaise with the RCA's Independent Third Party and to Sask Sport to communicate outcomes of complaints for record keeping purposes.

Procedures

42. The Case Manager will establish and adhere to timelines that ensure procedural fairness and that the matter is heard in a timely fashion.
43. The Case Manager will propose and, if appropriate in the circumstances, encourage the Parties use the *Dispute Resolution Policy* with the objective of resolving the dispute. If applicable, and if the dispute is not resolved, or if the Parties refuse to use the *Dispute Resolution Policy*, the Case Manager will appoint a discipline panel, which shall consist of a single Arbitrator, to hear the Reported complaint. In extraordinary circumstances, and at the discretion of the Case Manager, a discipline panel of three persons may be appointed to hear the complaint. In this event, the Case Manager will appoint one of the discipline panel's members to serve as the Chair.
44. The Case Manager, in cooperation with the discipline panel, will then decide the format under which the Reported complaint will be heard. This decision may not be appealed.
45. The format of the hearing may be an oral in-person hearing, an oral hearing by telephone or other communication medium, a hearing based on a review of documentary evidence submitted in advance of the hearing, or a combination of these methods. The hearing will be governed by the procedures that the Case Manager and the discipline panel deem appropriate in the circumstances, provided that:

- a) The discipline panel determines procedures and timelines, as well as a hearing duration, that is as expedient and cost-efficient as possible in order to ensure that costs to the Parties and the SRA are reasonable
- b) The Parties will be given appropriate notice of the day, time, and place of the hearing, in the case of an oral in-person hearing or an oral hearing by telephone or other communication medium
- c) Copies of any written documents which the Parties wish to have the discipline panel consider will be provided to all Parties, through the Case Manager, in advance of the hearing
- d) The Parties may engage a representative, advisor, translator, transcription services, or legal counsel at their own expense
- e) The discipline panel may request that any other individual participate and give evidence at the hearing
- f) If not a Party, the SRA and the club(s) of the Respondent(s) shall be allowed to attend the hearing as an observer and will be provided with access to any documents submitted. With the permission of the discipline panel, the SRA and the relevant club(s) may make submissions at the hearing or may provide the discipline panel with clarifying information that may be required for the panel to render its decision⁹
- g) The discipline panel may exclude any evidence filed by the Parties that is unduly repetitious or otherwise an abuse of process. The discipline panel shall otherwise apply relevant and applicable evidentiary rules in relation to the admissibility and weight given to any evidence filed by the Parties.
- h) Nothing is admissible in evidence at a hearing that:
 - i. would be inadmissible in a court by reason of any privilege under the law of evidence; or
 - ii. is inadmissible by any statute
- i) Where a discipline panel composed of three members is appointed, the decision will be by a majority vote

46. If the Respondent acknowledges the facts of the incident, the Respondent may waive the hearing, in which case the discipline panel will determine the appropriate sanction. The discipline panel may still hold a hearing for the purpose of determining an appropriate sanction.

47. The hearing may proceed even if a Party chooses not to participate in the hearing.

48. If a decision may affect another Party to the extent that the other Party would have recourse to a complaint or an appeal in their own right, that Party will become a Party to the complaint, shall be permitted to participate in the proceedings as determined by the discipline panel and will be bound by the decision.

49. In fulfilling its duties, the discipline panel may obtain independent advice.

50. Facts established by a criminal court, by a civil court or by a professional disciplinary tribunal of competent jurisdiction shall be admissible as evidence within the disciplinary process, as allowable by applicable law.

Decision

51. After hearing and/or reviewing the matter, the discipline panel will determine whether an infraction has occurred and, if so, the sanctions to be imposed. If the discipline panel considers that an infraction has not occurred, the Reported complaint will be dismissed.

52. Within fourteen (14) days of the hearing's conclusion, the discipline panel's written decision, with reasons, will be distributed by the Case Manager to all Parties, to RCA, the Sask Sport and RCA Independent Third Party, the Safe Sport Liaison, SaskSport's Dispute Resolution Office, and the SRA (including the Respondent's Club). In

⁹ The purpose of this provision is not to provide the SRA or the relevant club(s) with the possibility to try to influence whether a sanction is imposed and, if so, the duration or nature of the sanction. Instead, this provision is intended to provide the SRA and/or the relevant club(s) with the possibility to provide the discipline panel with clarifying information when the parties have sought a particular sanction against an Individual, but they have misunderstood or misrepresented fundamental elements of the programming or membership structure (or other similar issues) and, if left unaddressed, could result in the discipline panel imposing a sanction that is unenforceable.

extraordinary circumstances, the discipline panel may first issue a verbal or summary decision soon after the hearing's conclusion, with the full written decision to be issued before the end of the fourteen (14) day period.

53. Subject to Section 54 below, unless the matter involves a Vulnerable Participant, once the appeal deadline in the *Appeal Policy* has expired, Sask Sport shall publish the outcome of the case on its website. Publication shall be limited to the provision(s) of the relevant policies that have been violated, the name of the Respondent(s) and the sanction(s) imposed, if any. Additionally, where SRA acts as the Complainant under Section 23 above, only the SRA, and not the original Complainant, shall be identified as an involved Individual. If the matter is appealed, the publication provisions in the *Appeal Policy* shall apply. Identifying information regarding Minors or Vulnerable Participants will never be published by PRA or Sask Sport. Any decision in which an Individual is suspended for a period of one year or longer will be added to the Sask Sport long-term suspension registry.¹⁰
54. If the discipline panel dismisses the Reported complaint, the information referred to in Section 53 may only be published with the Respondent's consent. If the Respondent does not provide such consent, the information referred to in Section 53 will be kept confidential by the Parties, the Case Manager, RCA, SaskSport, and the SRA (including the Respondent's Club) and shall be retained and discarded in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation. Failure to respect this provision may result in disciplinary action being taken pursuant to this Policy.
55. Sask Sport will publish the outcome of the case as provided for in Sections 53 or 54, as applicable, by placing the required information on its website and shall leave the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of the sanction.
56. The discipline panel's decision will come into effect as of the date that it is rendered, unless decided otherwise by the discipline panel. The discipline panel's decision will apply automatically to and must be respected by PRA and any Individuals involved.
57. The Case Manager shall communicate decisions rendered pursuant to this Policy to the Safe Sport Liaison, the Parties, the Independent Third Party, to RCA and to Sask Sport. Except where a decision is published in accordance with Sections 53 or 54, decisions shall be considered confidential. Records of all decisions will be maintained by SRA and RCA in accordance with their respective privacy policies.

Sanctions

58. Where the discipline panel imposes a sanction, the decision shall include, at a minimum, the following details:

- Jurisdiction;
- Summary of the facts and relevant evidence;
- Where applicable, the specific provisions of SRA's policies, bylaws, rules or regulations that have been breached;
- Which Party or organization is responsible for the costs of implementing any sanction;
- which organization is responsible for monitoring that the sanctioned Individual respects the terms of the sanction imposed against them;

¹⁰ The Sask Sport long-term suspension registry is a password protected site that is accessible by provincial sport organizations in Saskatchewan only. The following information is included in the registry: first and last name of suspended Individual; the date of suspension, duration of suspension, expiry date of suspension, any other sanctions imposed, and name of the Individual's provincial sport organization.

- if applicable, any reinstatement conditions that the Respondent must satisfy and which organization is responsible for ensuring that the conditions have been satisfied; and
- any other guidance that will assist the Parties to implement the discipline panel's decision.

If necessary, a Party – or the organization that is responsible for implementing or monitoring a sanction – may seek clarifications from the discipline panel regarding the order so that it can be implemented or monitored appropriately.

59. When determining the appropriate sanction, the Complaint Resolution Officer or discipline panel (as applicable) will consider the following factors (where applicable):

- a) The nature and duration of the Respondent's relationship with the Complainant, including whether there is a power imbalance;
- b) The Respondent's prior history and any pattern of misconduct, Prohibited Behaviour or Maltreatment;
- c) The respective ages of the individuals involved;
- d) Whether the Respondent poses an ongoing and/or potential threat to the safety of others;
- e) The Respondent's voluntary admission of the offense(s), acceptance of responsibility for the misconduct, Prohibited Behaviour or Maltreatment, and/or cooperation in the investigative and/or disciplinary process;
- f) Real or perceived impact of the incident on the Complainant, SRA, RCA or the rowing community;
- g) Circumstances specific to the Respondent being sanctioned (e.g. lack of appropriate knowledge or training regarding the requirements in the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*; addiction; disability; illness);
- h) Whether, given the facts and circumstances that have been established, continued participation in the sport community is appropriate;
- i) A Respondent who is in a position of trust, intimate contact or high-impact decision-making may face more serious sanctions; and/or
- j) Other mitigating or aggravating circumstances.

60. Any sanction imposed must be proportionate and reasonable. However, progressive discipline is not required, and a single incident of Prohibited Behaviour, Maltreatment or other misconduct may justify elevated or combined sanctions.

61. The discipline panel may apply the following disciplinary sanctions, singularly or in combination:

- a) **Verbal or Written Warning** - A verbal reprimand or an official, written notice that an Individual has violated the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* or other policy and that more severe sanctions will result should the Individual be involved in other violations¹¹
- b) **Education** - The requirement that an Individual undertake specified educational or similar remedial measures to address the violation(s) of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* or the UCCMS or other policy
- c) **Probation** - Should any further violations of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* or the UCCMS or other policy occur during the probationary period, this may result in additional disciplinary measures, including, without limitation, a period of suspension or permanent ineligibility. This sanction can also include loss of privileges or other conditions, restrictions, or requirements for a specified period
- d) **Suspension** - Suspension, either for a set time or until further notice, from participation, in any capacity, in any program, activity, Event, or competition sponsored by, organized by, or under the auspices of SRA. A suspended Individual may be eligible to return to participation, but reinstatement may be subject to certain restrictions or contingent upon the Individual satisfying specific conditions noted at the time of suspension
- e) **Eligibility Restrictions** - Restrictions or prohibitions from some types of participation but allowing participation in other capacities under strict conditions
- f) **Permanent Ineligibility** - Ineligibility to participate in any capacity in any program, activity, Event, or competition sponsored by, organized by, or under the auspices of SRA
- g) **Other Discretionary Sanctions** - Other sanctions may be imposed, including, but not limited to, other loss of privileges, no contact directives, a fine or a monetary payment to compensate for direct losses, or other restrictions or conditions as deemed necessary or appropriate

62. The discipline panel may apply the following presumptive sanctions which are presumed to be fair and appropriate for the listed Maltreatment:

- a) Sexual Maltreatment involving a Minor Complainant, or a Complainant who was a Minor at the time of the incidents complained of, shall carry a presumptive sanction of permanent ineligibility
- b) Sexual Maltreatment, Physical Maltreatment with contact, and Maltreatment related to interference or manipulation of process shall carry a presumptive sanction of either a period of suspension or eligibility restrictions
- c) While a Respondent has pending charges related to allegations of a crime against a person, if justified by the seriousness of the offence, the presumptive sanction shall be a period of suspension until a final determination is made by the applicable process.

¹¹ For greater clarity, where an Individual is given a warning, this information will be kept on their disciplinary record for as long as permitted by SRA's policies and practices regarding private and/or confidential information and it shall be disclosed on any screening disclosure form when requested.

63. An Individual's conviction for certain *Criminal Code* offenses involving harmful conduct shall carry a presumptive sanction of permanent ineligibility from participating in the activities of SRA. Such *Criminal Code* offences may include, but are not limited to:

- a) Any child pornography offences
- b) Any sexual offences
- c) Any offence of physical violence

64. When imposing sanctions under this Policy, the discipline panel may take into account any previously established infractions committed by the Respondent(s) of the disciplinary policies of SRA, RCA, any other Member, or any other sport organization that had authority over the Respondent.

65. Failure to comply with a sanction as determined by SRA will result in an automatic suspension from participation in the activities of SRA until such time as compliance occurs.

66. Records of all decisions will be maintained by SRA. SRA will submit all records to RCA. Such records shall be retained and discarded in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation.

OSIC Sanction

67. SRA acknowledges the obligation of RCA, as a Program Signatory to the OSIC, to ensure that any sanctions or measures imposed by the OSIC's Director of Sanctions and Outcomes will be implemented and respected within RCA's jurisdiction (including at the provincial, territorial and club level), once RCA receives appropriate notice of any sanction or measure from the OSIC and communicates the same to SRA. The Safe Sport Liaison shall communicate any OSIC sanctions or measures resulting in a suspension of one year or longer, received from RCA to Sask Sport.

Appeals

68. The decision of the discipline panel may be appealed in accordance with the *Appeal Policy*.

Confidentiality

69. The discipline and complaints process is confidential and involves only the PSO Safe Sport Liaison and relevant employees as determined by the Safe Sport Liaison, the Parties, the Independent Third Party, the investigator (if one is appointed), the Case Manager, the Complaint Resolution Officer, the discipline panel, Sask Sport and any independent advisors to the discipline panel, as well as RCA (as applicable).

70. None of the Parties (or their representatives or witnesses) or organizations referred to in Section 69 will disclose confidential information relating to the discipline or complaint to any person not involved in the proceedings, unless SRA (or RCA, as applicable) is required to notify an organization such as an international federation, Sport Canada, Sask Sport or other sport organization (i.e., where a Provisional Suspension or interim measures have been imposed and communication is required to ensure that they may be enforced), or notification is otherwise required by law.

71. Any failure to respect the aforementioned confidentiality requirement may result in further sanctions or discipline by the Complaint Resolution Officer or discipline panel (as applicable) against the Party(ies) in breach.

Timelines

72. If the circumstances of the Reported complaint are such that adhering to the timelines outlined by this Policy will not allow a timely resolution to the complaint, the discipline panel may direct that these timelines be revised.

Privacy

73. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to the SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

74. The SRA or any of its delegates pursuant to this Policy (i.e., Independent Third Party, Case Manager, discipline panel), shall comply with the SRA's Privacy Policy in the performance of their services under this Policy.

Discipline and Complaints Policy Flowchart

Complainant files complaint to Independent Third Party (ITP)

The Independent Third Party's contact information can be found on RCA's website:
<https://rowingcanada.org/safe-sport/>

Screening of Complaint

The ITP shall:

- determine whether the complaint falls within the jurisdiction of this Policy;
- if it can be accepted pursuant to Section 13; and
- whether it is either a frivolous or vexatious complaint, or if it has been made in bad faith.

Case Dismissed

The case is dismissed if the ITP determines the case is frivolous or falls outside of policy jurisdiction. Complainant will be advised of reasons for dismissal.

Case Accepted

- The Case Manager will propose to the parties the Alternate Dispute Resolution Policy with the objective of resolving the dispute.

Alternate Dispute Resolution Policy

1. SRA supports Individuals in seeking to resolve their own conflicts and recognize that, in many cases, disputes can be resolved directly and quickly in an informal way.

2. If all Parties to a dispute agree to ADR, a mediator or facilitator, acceptable to all Parties, shall be appointed to mediate or facilitate the dispute.

3. The mediator or facilitator shall decide the format under which the dispute shall be mediated or facilitated and may, if they consider it appropriate, specify a deadline before which the Parties must reach a negotiated decision.

4. If a negotiated decision is reached, the decision will be reported to the SRA.

5. If a negotiated decision is not reached, the complaint will be referred back to the Discipline and Complaints Policy for a Formal Hearing Procedure.

6. Any negotiated decision will be binding on the parties and not subject to appeal.

Formal Hearing Procedure (Alternate Dispute Resolution Unsuccessful or Denied)

1. The Case Manager appointed by SRA:

- Appoint a Discipline Panel
- Coordinate all administrative aspects and set timelines
- Provide administrative assistance and logistical support to discipline panel
- Ensure all evidence and submissions are disclosed to all parties and the Panel
- Provide any other service or support that may be necessary to ensure a fair and timely proceeding;
- Liaise with the RCA's Independent Third Party and to Sask Sport to communicate outcomes of complaints for record keeping purposes as provided for in the Discipline and Complaints Policy.

2. The Panel:

- May request other Individuals participate in the hearing
- will determine what is or is not evidence
- will render a written decision within 14 days of the completion of the hearing
- Distribute the decision to the Case Manager who will distribute the decision in accordance with the Discipline and Complaints Policy

3. Decisions may be appealed in accordance with the Association's Appeal Policy

SRA

INVESTIGATIONS POLICY – DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND MALTREATMENT

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Policy is to address how investigations will be conducted when necessary and as determined by the Independent Third Party pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.
2. Investigations shall only be conducted when the Independent Third Party considers that there is a need for an independent assessment to determine whether an allegation (or, where there are several allegations), which allegations, should be heard by a discipline panel pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* because they constitute, if found to be true, a likely breach of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, the UCCMS, the *Social Media Policy*, the *Athlete Protection Policy*, or any other relevant and applicable SRA policy, or whether the allegation(s) are frivolous, vexatious or made in bad faith.

Investigation

3. The Sask Sport Independent Third Party shall appoint the investigator in consultation with SRA. Investigators who satisfy the relevant requirements to perform such duties can be found on the Sask Sport website [here](#).
4. The investigator must be an independent third-party with training or investigation experience. The investigator must not be in a conflict of interest situation and should have no connection to either Party.
5. Federal and/or Provincial legislation related to Workplace Harassment or Workplace Violence may apply to the investigation if Harassment/Violence was directed toward a worker in a Workplace. The investigator should review workplace safety legislation, the organization's policies for human resources, and/or consult independent experts to determine whether legislation applies to the Reported complaint.
6. The investigation may take any form as decided by the investigator, guided by any applicable Federal and/or Provincial legislation. The investigation may include:
 - a) Interviews with the Complainant(s);
 - b) Witness interviews; and
 - c) Interviews with the Respondent(s).

Investigator's Report

7. Upon completion of their investigation, the investigator shall prepare a report that includes a summary of evidence from the Parties and any witnesses interviewed. The report shall include an executive summary, which SRA may share separately from the full report with the Parties.
8. The investigator's report shall contain a non-binding opinion regarding whether an allegation or, where there are several allegations, which allegations, should be heard by a discipline panel pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* because they constitute a likely breach of the *Code of Conduct and Ethics*, the UCCMS, the *Social Media Policy*, the *Athlete Protection Policy*, or any other relevant and applicable SRA policy, or whether the allegation(s) are frivolous, vexatious or made in bad faith.¹² The investigator may also make non-binding recommendations regarding the appropriate next steps (i.e., mediation, disciplinary procedures, further review or investigation).
9. Where necessary to protect the identity of any person that participated in the investigation, the investigator may redact names and anonymize any witness testimony that may result in the identification of the individual.
10. The investigator's report will be provided to the Independent Third Party who will disclose it to SRA, which may disclose, at its discretion, either the full report or only the executive summary to the Parties. If necessary, and at the discretion of the Independent Third Party, other relevant Parties may be provided with an executive summary of the investigator's findings. RCA will be provided with a copy of the investigator's full report if the investigation has been conducted under the authority of SRA; however, RCA shall not disclose the report to any third party without SRA's express written consent.
11. The investigator's report shall be used for the purposes described in this Policy and in Section 26 of the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.
12. The investigation report and any executive summary shall remain confidential once disclosed to SRA, RCA, the Complainant and Respondent or any other relevant party. Any failure to respect this provision may be subject to a complaint and disciplinary measures being taken pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.
13. Should the investigator find that there are possible instances of offence under the *Criminal Code*, particularly related to Criminal Harassment (or Stalking), Uttering Threats, Assault, Sexual Interference, or Sexual Exploitation, the investigator shall advise the Complainant or SRA to refer the matter to police.
14. The investigator must also inform SRA of any findings of criminal activity. SRA may decide whether to report such findings to police but is required to inform the police if there are findings related to the trafficking of Prohibited Substances or Methods (as indicated in the version of the World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List currently in force), any sexual crime involving Minors, or any suspected abuse of a Minor, fraud against SRA, or other offences where the lack of reporting would bring SRA into disrepute.

Reprisal and Retaliation

15. An Individual who Reports a complaint to the Independent Third Party or who gives evidence in an investigation may not be subject to reprisal or retaliation from any individual or group. Any such conduct may constitute Maltreatment and will be subject to disciplinary proceedings pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

¹² As indicated in the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada's Investigation Guidelines, a Reported complaint shall not be characterized as vexatious if the evidence demonstrates that there was a reasonable basis for filing and pursuing it. For a complaint to be considered to have been made in bad faith, the investigator must consider that it was filed consciously for a dishonest purpose or due to the moral underhandedness of the Complainant and that there was an intention to mislead.

False Allegations

16. An Individual who submits allegations that the investigator determines to be malicious, false or for the purpose of retribution, retaliation or vengeance (or that otherwise fall within the definition of Prohibited Behaviour) may be subject to a complaint under the terms of the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*. The investigator may recommend to SRA that the Individual be required to pay for the costs of any investigation that comes to this conclusion. Any Individual who is liable to pay for such costs shall be automatically deemed to be not in good standing until the costs are paid in full and shall be prohibited from participating in any SRA and RCA Events, activities or business and such information will be provided to Sask Sport's Dispute Resolution Office for inclusion on the long-term suspension registry (where applicable). SRA or the Individual against whom the allegations were submitted, may act as the Complainant with respect to making a complaint pursuant to this Section 16.

Confidentiality

17. The investigator will protect confidentiality to the extent possible and shall only share information on a need-to-know basis. However, the investigator may need to share information in order to ensure that natural justice has been served.

Privacy

18. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).
19. SRA or any of its delegates pursuant to this Policy (i.e., Independent Third Party, the investigator) shall comply with SRA's Privacy Policy in the performance of their services under this Policy.

SRA

DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
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Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
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Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	

Purpose

1. SRA supports Individuals in seeking to resolve their own conflicts and recognize that, in many cases, disputes can be resolved directly and quickly in an informal way. In situations where direct action by Individuals may be inappropriate or unsuccessful, SRA supports the principles of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) to resolve disputes, which can be achieved through negotiation, facilitation, and mediation. ADR avoids the uncertainty, costs, and other negative effects associated with lengthy appeals or complaints, or with litigation.
2. SRA encourages all Individuals to communicate openly, and to collaborate and use problem-solving and negotiation techniques to resolve their differences. SRA believes that negotiated settlements are most often preferable to arbitrated outcomes. Negotiated resolutions to disputes with and among Individuals are strongly encouraged.

Application of this Policy

3. This Policy applies to all Individuals.
4. Opportunities for ADR may be pursued at any point in a dispute when all Parties to the dispute agree that such a course of action would be mutually beneficial.

Facilitation and Mediation

5. If all Parties to a dispute agree to ADR, a mediator or facilitator, acceptable to all Parties, shall be appointed to mediate or facilitate the dispute. The costs of the mediation or facilitation shall be borne by the Parties, unless agreed to otherwise with SRA. The mediator or facilitator shall be a member of ADR Saskatchewan and shall otherwise comply with any applicable legislative or regulatory requirement to conduct mediation in the province of Saskatchewan.
6. Where RCA is involved in the matter, it may, upon agreement of the Parties, refer the matter for mediation using the mediation services of the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC).
7. The mediator or facilitator shall decide the format under which the dispute shall be mediated or facilitated and may, if they consider it appropriate, specify a deadline before which the Parties must reach a negotiated decision.

8. Should a negotiated settlement be reached, the settlement shall be reported to the Safe Sport Liaison and the Sask Sport Independent Third Party. The Independent Third Party shall notify Sask Sport of any settlements that are reached (but shall not provide the settlement agreement to Sask Sport unless requested by Sask Sport). Any actions that are to take place as a result of the decision shall be enacted on the timelines specified by the negotiated settlement. Where SRA may be required to implement any part of a negotiated settlement, it shall become a Party to the mediation or it shall be given the opportunity to approve the negotiated settlement, but only with respect to aspects of the settlement that it may be required to implement.
9. Should a negotiated settlement not be reached by the deadline specified by the mediator or facilitator at the start of the process (if set), or if the Parties to the dispute do not agree to ADR, the dispute shall be considered under the appropriate section of the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* or *Appeal Policy*, as applicable.

Final and Binding

10. Any negotiated settlement will be binding on the Parties and shall, unless the Parties decide otherwise, remain confidential and will be protected by SRA's Privacy Policy, as applicable. Negotiated settlements may not be appealed.
11. No action or legal proceeding will be commenced against SRA in respect of a dispute, unless SRA has refused or failed to provide or abide by the dispute resolution processes set out in its governing documents.

Privacy

12. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).
13. SRA or any its delegates pursuant to this Policy shall comply with SRA's Privacy Policy in the performance of their services under this Policy.

SRA
APPEAL POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
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Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	

Purpose

1. This *Appeal Policy* provides Individuals with a fair, affordable, and expedient appeal process.

Scope and Application of this Policy

2. This Policy applies to all Individuals. However, it does not apply to appeals of decisions that were managed by the OSIC, which shall be handled in accordance with the policies and procedures of the OSIC or the Director of Sanctions and Outcomes, as applicable.
3. Any Individual who is affected by a decision taken by SRA specifically with regard to that Individual by the Board, by any Committee of the Board or by any body or individual within SRA who has been delegated authority to make decisions in accordance with SRA’s By-laws and governance policies (as applicable), shall have the right to appeal that decision provided that it is a decision that is subject to appeal pursuant to Section 4 of this Policy, that the conditions indicated in Sections 6 or 7 of this Policy (as applicable) have been satisfied, and provided that there are sufficient grounds for the appeal pursuant to Section 9 of this Policy. Decisions rendered by SRA’s clubs or minor associations are also appealable under this Policy where: 1) no other appeal process exists at the club or minor association level; or 2) where an appeal process exists at the club or minor association and that appeal process has been exhausted; and 3) the appeal is otherwise admissible under this Policy pursuant to Sections 4, 6 (or 7) and 8.
4. This Policy **will apply** to decisions relating to:
 - a) eligibility
 - b) team selection decisions
 - c) conflict of interest
 - d) disciplinary decisions made pursuant to SRA’s relevant and applicable policies
 - e) membership
5. This Policy **will not apply** to the following decisions relating to:
 - a) Reported complaints that were managed by the OSIC;
 - b) Matters of general application such as amendments to SRA’s By-laws;
 - c) SRA’s operational structure and committee appointments;
 - d) Issues of budgets and budget implementation;
 - e) Employment matters or matters of operational structure or staffing or volunteer

- leadership opportunities;
- f) Except as otherwise provided for in this Policy, decisions made by organizations other than SRA, such as SRA's clubs, the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC), U Sports, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), World Rowing or the Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire (FISU) or any other governing body;
 - g) Selection criteria, quotas, policies and procedures established by entities other than SRA;
 - h) Substance, content and establishment of team selection criteria;
 - i) The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP, Future Best) policies and procedures established by Sport Canada (or the provincial/territorial equivalent);
 - j) Policy and procedures established by any other agency, association or organization external to SRA;
 - k) Infractions for doping offences, which are dealt with pursuant to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program, by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and World Rowing;
 - l) Protests and appeals made under the Rules of Racing;
 - m) Contractual matters between SRA and its staff for which another dispute resolution process exists under the provisions of the applicable contract; or
 - n) Settlements negotiated pursuant to the *Dispute Resolution Policy*.

Submission and Timing of Appeal

- 6. Individuals who wish to appeal a decision have fourteen (14) days from the date on which they received notice of the decision to submit to the Sask Sport Independent Third Party the following:
 - a) Notice of the intention to appeal
 - b) Their contact information
 - c) Name of the Respondent and any Affected Parties, when known to the Appellant
 - d) Date the Appellant was advised of the decision being appealed
 - e) A copy of the decision being appealed, or description of the decision if a written document is not available
 - f) Grounds and detailed reasons for the appeal
 - g) All evidence that supports these grounds
 - h) Requested remedy or remedies
 - i) An administration fee of five hundred dollars (\$500), which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld
- 7. An Individual who wishes to initiate an appeal beyond the fourteen (14) day period may only do so if exceptional circumstances prevented them from filing their appeal within the deadline indicated in Section 6 above. Any such Individual must provide a written request stating the reasons for which they are seeking an exemption. The decision to allow, or not allow, an appeal outside of the fourteen (14) day period will be at the sole discretion of the Appeal Manager.

Grounds for Appeal

- 8. A decision cannot be appealed on its merits alone or because an Individual (or Individuals) do not like or agree with a decision. An appeal may only be heard if there are sufficient grounds for appeal. Sufficient grounds include the Respondent:
 - a) Made a decision that it did not have the authority or jurisdiction (as set out in the Respondent's governing documents) to make;

- b) Failed to follow its own procedures (as set out in the Respondent's governing documents);
 - c) Made a decision that was influenced by bias (where bias is defined as a lack of neutrality to such an extent that the decision-maker appears not to have considered other views); or
 - d) Made a decision that was grossly unreasonable or unfair.
9. The Appellant must demonstrate, on a balance of probabilities, that the Respondent has made a procedural error as described in Section 8 of this Policy and that this error had, or may reasonably have had, a material effect on the decision or decision-maker.

Submitting an Appeal

Screening of Appeal

10. Following the receipt of an appeal, the Sask Sport Independent Third Party will appoint an independent Appeal Manager (who must not be in a conflict of interest or have any direct relationship with the Parties) who has the following responsibilities:
- a) To determine if the appeal falls under the scope of this Policy (Sections 2-5)
 - b) To determine if the appeal was submitted in a timely manner (Sections 6 and 7)
 - c) To decide whether there are sufficient grounds for the appeal (Section 8)

The Appeal Manager may not be an employee, volunteer, or member of SRA, must not be in a conflict of interest or have any direct relationship with the Parties, and must have appropriate experience and training to act as the Appeal Manager.

11. If the Appeal Manager denies the appeal on the basis of insufficient grounds, because it was not submitted in a timely manner, or because it did not fall under the scope of this Policy, the Appellant will be notified, in writing, of the reasons for this decision.
12. If the Appeal Manager accepts an appeal because it falls under the scope of this Policy, there are sufficient grounds and it was submitted in a timely manner, the Appeal Manager will notify the Parties of their decision in writing and will follow the steps described hereunder.
13. The Appeal Manager shall propose and, if appropriate in the circumstances, encourage that the Parties attempt to resolve the dispute using the *Alternate Dispute Resolution Policy*. If the Parties do not all agree to use the *Alternate Dispute Resolution Policy*, or if the Parties are unable to resolve the dispute using the *Alternate Dispute Resolution Policy*, the Appeal Manager will appoint an appeal panel in accordance with Section 14 below.

Appointment of Appeal Panel

14. If an appeal is accepted, the Appeal Manager will appoint an appeal panel which shall consist of a single member to hear the appeal. However, at the discretion of the Appeal Manager, an appeal panel composed of three members may be appointed to hear the appeal. In this event, the Appeal Manager will appoint one of the panel's members to serve as the chair.
15. When appointing the appeal panel, the Appeal Manager must select individuals who are impartial, free from any real or perceived conflict of interest (and who shall remain so until a final decision has been rendered or the proceedings have otherwise finally terminated), and who do not have any direct relationship with any of the

Parties. Although not a strict requirement, the Appeal Manager should attempt to appoint individuals to the appeal panel who have a legal background and who understand the sport of rowing. When justified by the circumstances, the Appeal Manager may appoint individuals to the appeal panel who have specific areas of expertise that would assist in resolving the matter.

Determination of Affected Parties

16. In order to confirm the identification of any Affected Parties, the Appeal Manager will engage SRA. The Appeal Manager may determine whether a Party is an Affected Party in their sole discretion.

Procedure for Appeal Hearing

17. The Appeal Manager shall notify the Parties that the appeal will be heard. The Appeal Manager, in collaboration with the appeal panel, shall then decide the format under which the appeal will be heard. This decision is at the sole discretion of the Appeal Manager and may not be appealed.

18. If a Party chooses not to participate in the hearing, the hearing will proceed in any event.

19. The format of the hearing may involve an oral in-person hearing, an oral hearing by telephone or other electronic means, a hearing based on a review of documentary evidence submitted in advance of the hearing, a hearing based on documentary submissions alone, or a combination of these methods. The hearing will be governed by the procedures that the Appeal Manager and the appeal panel deem appropriate in the circumstances, provided that:

- a) The hearing will be held in a timely manner within a timeline determined by the Appeal Manager
- b) The Parties will be given reasonable notice of the day, time and place of an oral in-person hearing or oral hearing by telephone or electronic communications.
- c) Copies of any written documents which the Parties wish to have the appeal panel consider will be provided to all Parties in advance of the hearing
- d) The Parties may be accompanied by a representative, advisor, or legal counsel at their own expense
- e) The appeal panel may request that any other individual participate and give evidence at an oral in-person hearing or oral hearing by telephone or electronic communications.
- f) The appeal panel may exclude any evidence filed by the Parties that is unduly repetitious or otherwise an abuse of process. The appeal panel shall otherwise apply relevant and applicable evidentiary rules in relation to the admissibility and weight given to any evidence filed by the Parties
- g) Nothing is admissible in evidence at a hearing that:
 - i. would be inadmissible in a court by reason of any privilege under the law of evidence; or
 - ii. is inadmissible by any statute
- h) Any Affected Party shall be permitted to make submissions and file evidence before the appeal panel. The appeal panel's decision is binding on any Affected Party. The decision to uphold or reject the appeal will be by a majority vote of the appeal panel members, except in cases where the panel consists of a single member

20. In fulfilling its duties, the appeal panel may obtain independent advice.

Appeal Decision

21. The appeal panel shall issue its decision, in writing and with reasons, within fourteen (14) days after the hearing's conclusion. In making its decision, the appeal panel will have no greater authority than that of the original decision-maker. The appeal panel may decide to:
 - a) Reject the appeal and confirm the decision being appealed
 - b) Uphold the appeal, in whole or in part, and refer the matter back to the initial decision-maker for a new decision
 - c) Uphold the appeal, in whole or in part, and vary the decision
 - d) Determine whether costs of the appeal, excluding legal fees and legal disbursements of any Parties, may be assessed against any Party. In assessing costs, the appeal panel will take into account the nature and amount of the costs, the outcome of the appeal, the conduct of the Parties, and the Parties' respective financial resources
22. The appeal panel's written decision, with reasons, will be distributed to all Parties, the Appeal Manager, and SRA. In extraordinary circumstances, the appeal panel may first issue a verbal or summary decision soon after the hearing's conclusion, with the full written decision to be issued thereafter.
23. Subject to Section 24 below, unless the matter involves a Vulnerable Participant, Sask Sport shall publish the outcome of the appeal on their website. Publication shall be limited to, where applicable, the provision(s) of any relevant policies that have been violated, the name of the Respondent(s) involved, the sanction(s) or order imposed, if any. Additionally, where SRA acts as the Complainant under Section 23 of the *Discipline and Complaints Policy* and any decision issued pursuant to that Policy is appealed, only SRA, and not the original Complainant, shall be identified as an involved Individual. Identifying information regarding Minors or Vulnerable Participants will never be published by SRA.
24. If the appeal panel dismisses the appeal, the decision may only be published, as provided for in Section 23, with the Respondent's consent. If the Respondent does not provide such consent, the decision will be kept confidential by the Parties, the Appeal Manager, SRA and RCA, and shall be retained and discarded in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation. Failure to respect this provision may result in disciplinary action being taken pursuant to this Policy.
25. Sask Sport will publish the outcome of the case as provided for in Sections 23 or 24, as and when applicable, by placing the required information on its website and shall leave the information up for the longer of one (1) month or the duration of the sanction.
26. Other individuals or organizations, including but not limited to, other Members, shall be advised of the outcome of any decisions rendered in accordance with this Policy.
27. Any decision rendered pursuant to this Policy shall apply automatically to and must be respected by SRA and any Individuals involved.
28. Records of all decisions will be maintained by SRA and RCA in accordance with their respective privacy policies.
29. Any decision by SRA's appeal panel in relation to an appeal filed pursuant to this *Appeal Policy* shall be final and binding on the parties. The decision shall not be subject to any further appeal before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC), unless the original Parties to the appeal seize the SDRCC on a fee-for-service basis.

Timelines

30. If the circumstances of the appeal are such that adhering to the timelines outlined by this Policy will not allow a timely resolution to the appeal, the Appeal Manager and/or Panel may direct that these timelines be revised.

Confidentiality

31. The appeals process is confidential and involves only the Parties, the Appeal Manager, the appeal panel, and any independent advisors to the Panel. Once initiated and until a decision is released, none of the Parties will disclose confidential information to any person not involved in the proceedings.

32. Any failure to respect the aforementioned confidentiality requirement may result in disciplinary action being taken against the Individual(s) in accordance with SRA's relevant and applicable policies.

Final and Binding

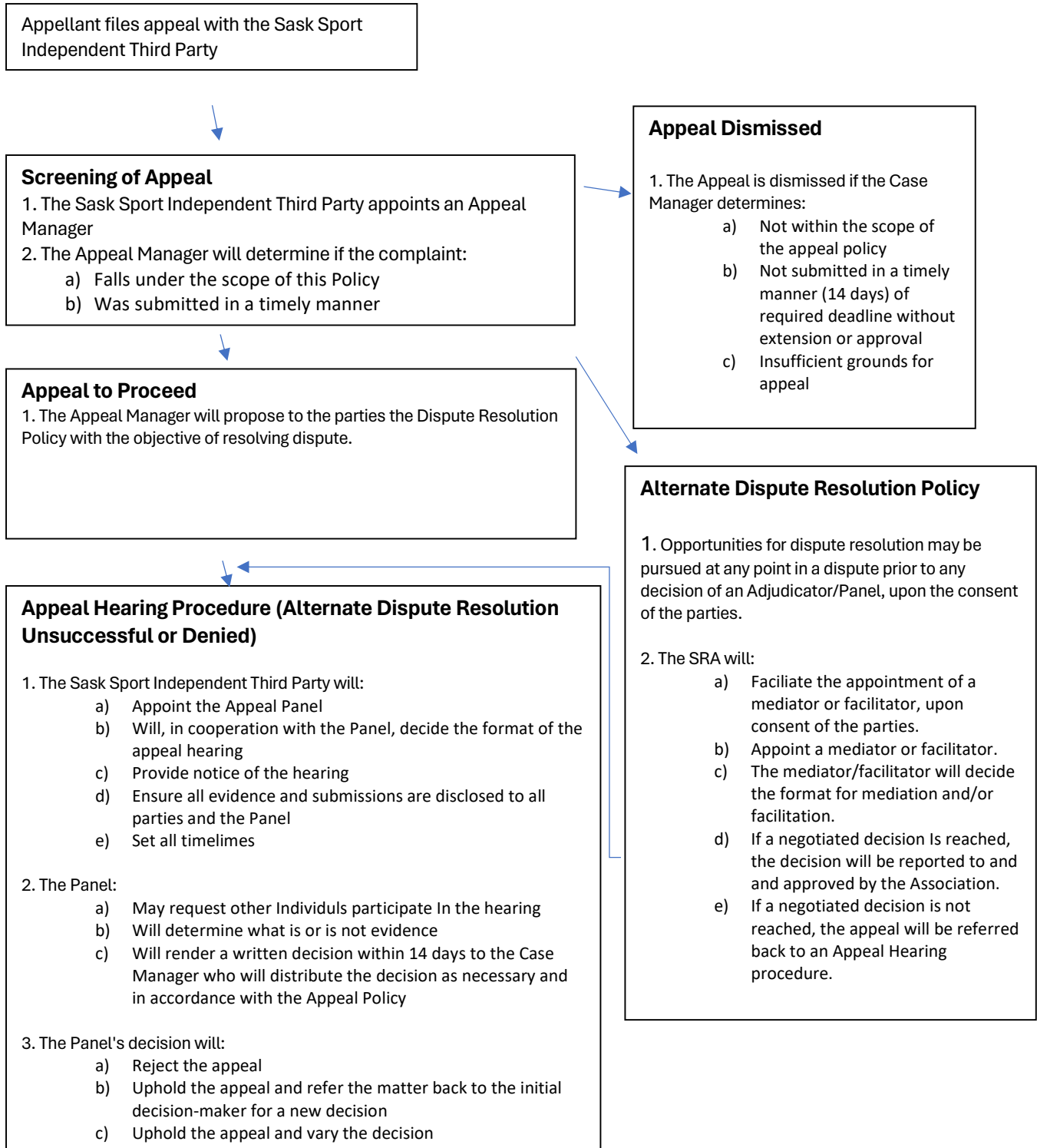
33. No action or legal proceeding will be commenced against SRA or any Individuals in respect of a dispute, unless SRA has refused or failed to provide or abide by the dispute resolution process and/or appeal process as set out in governing documents.

Privacy

34. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

35. SRA or any of its delegates pursuant to this Policy (i.e., Appeal Manager, appeal panel) shall comply with SRA's Privacy Policy in the performance of their services under this Policy.

Appeal Policy Flowchart



SRA

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	

Preamble

1. SRA is aware that Individual interaction and communication occurs frequently on social media. SRA cautions Individuals that any conduct falling short of the standard of behaviour required by this *Social Media Policy* and the *Code of Conduct and Ethics* may be subject to the disciplinary sanctions identified within the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Application of this Policy

2. This Policy applies to all Individuals, SRA and its clubs.

Conduct and Behaviour

3. For the avoidance of doubt, the following social media conduct may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*:
 - a) Posting a disrespectful, hateful, harmful, disparaging, insulting, or otherwise negative comment on a social medium that is directed at an Individual, at RCA, SRA, at a Member, or at other individuals connected with RCA or SRA
 - b) Posting a picture, altered picture, or video on a social medium that is harmful, disrespectful, insulting, or otherwise offensive, and that is directed at an Individual, at RCA, SRA at a Member, or at other individuals connected with SRA
 - c) Creating or contributing to a Facebook group, webpage, Instagram account, Twitter feed, blog, or online forum devoted solely or in part to promoting negative or disparaging remarks or commentary about RCA, SRA, or a Member, their stakeholders, or their reputation
 - d) Inappropriate personal or sexual relationships over a social medium between Individuals who have a Power Imbalance in their interactions, such as between Athletes and coaches, Directors and Officers, Committee members and staff, umpires, officials and Athletes, etc.
 - e) Any instance of cyber-bullying or cyber-harassment between one Individual and another Individual, where incidents of cyber-bullying and cyber-harassment can include but are not limited to the following conduct on any social medium, via text-message, or via email: regular insults, negative comments, vexatious or unwelcome behaviour, pranks or jokes, threats, posing as another person, spreading rumours or lies, or other harmful behaviour.

4. All conduct and behaviour occurring on social media may be Reported pursuant to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Individuals' Responsibilities

5. Individuals acknowledge that their social media activity may be viewable and viewed by anyone, including RCA, SRA, or other Members or Individuals.
6. If SRA unofficially engages with an Individual in social media (such as by retweeting a tweet or sharing a photo on Facebook) the Individual may, at any time, ask SRA to cease this engagement.
7. When using social media, an Individual must model appropriate behaviour befitting the Individual's role and status in connection with SRA.
8. Removing content from social media after it has been posted (either publicly or privately) does not excuse the Individual from being subject to the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.
9. An Individual who believes that another Individual's social media activity is inappropriate or may violate the policies and procedures of SRA should Report the matter in the manner outlined by the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Privacy

10. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

SRA SCREENING POLICY

Effective date	May 24 2024
Archived date	-
Date last reviewed	May 24 2024
Scheduled review date	May 2026
Replaces and/or amends	-
Approved by and date	SRA Directors May 24 2024
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	Appendix B - Application Form, Appendix C - Screening Disclosure Form, SRA Addendum

Preamble

1. SRA understands that screening personnel and volunteers is a vital part of providing a safe sporting environment and has become a common practice amongst sport organizations that provide programs and services to the Canadian sport community, and specifically within rowing clubs and associations.

Application of this Policy

2. This Policy applies to all individuals whose position with SRA is one of trust or authority which may relate to, at a minimum, finances, supervision, or Vulnerable Individuals.
3. Not all individuals associated with SRA will be required to obtain a criminal record check or submit screening documents because not all positions pose a risk of harm to SRA or participants. Individuals will be subject to the screening requirements described in the Screening Requirements Matrix found in **Appendix A** of this Policy and shall comply with the screening application requirements as detailed therein. For any information on how to obtain an E-PIC or a VSC, please consult the SRA Safe Sport webpage.

Screening Committee

4. The implementation of this Policy is the responsibility of an independent individual appointed by RCA that will function as the Screening Committee for all screening applications received pursuant to this Policy. This independent individual (hereinafter referred to as the "Screening Committee") will possess the requisite skills, knowledge and abilities to accurately assess screening documents and to render decisions under this Policy.
5. The Screening Committee will carry out its duties in accordance with the terms of this Policy.
6. The Screening Committee is responsible for reviewing all documents submitted with a screening application and, based on the review, making decisions regarding the related appropriateness of individuals filling positions within SRA. In carrying out its duties, the Screening Committee may consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer screening specialists, or any other person.

Screening Requirements

7. A Screening Requirements Matrix is provided as **Appendix A**. All individuals must comply with the requirements detailed therein when first engaged by SRA and shall respect the renewal requirements indicated in Section 20 below.
8. If an individual subsequently receives a charge, conviction for, or is found guilty of an offense they will report this circumstance immediately to SRA. Additionally, the individual will inform the relevant organization of any changes in their circumstance that would alter their original responses in their Screening Disclosure Form.
9. If SRA learns that an individual has provided false, inaccurate, or misleading information, the individual will immediately be removed from their position and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Procedure

10. Individuals must submit the screening documents indicated in Appendix A, according to the category in which they fall, to the Screening Committee. If an individual is uncertain of which category they fall into, they may contact RCA or SRA for assistance. Any information submitted shall be subject to SRA's Privacy Policy, will only be viewed on a need-to-know basis, and will be protected in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation.
11. An individual who refuses or fails to provide the necessary screening documents, or makes an incomplete application, will be ineligible for the position sought. The individual will be informed by the Screening Committee that their application and/or position will not proceed until such time as the screening documents are submitted.
12. SRA understands that there may be delays in receiving the results of an E-PIC or a VSC. At its discretion, the organization may permit the individual to participate in the role during the delay, provided that the individual demonstrates that they have initiated the E-PIC or VSC application process. This permission may be withdrawn at any time and for any reason.
13. SRA recognizes that different information will be available depending on the type of screening document that the individual has submitted. For example, an E-PIC may show details of a specific offense, or not, and/or a VSC may be returned with specific information or simply a notification indicating 'cleared' or 'not cleared'. The Screening Committee will use its expertise and discretion when making decisions based on the screening documents that have been submitted.
14. The Screening Committee will review all Level 1 and Level 2 screening applications, including any supporting documents and shall make a decision as indicated in Section 15 below. For Level 3 screening applications, the Screening Committee will only review cases where the individual has made a declaration in their declaration form that may impact whether they can participate in the desired position.
15. Following the review of any Level 1 and Level 2 screening applications, the Screening Committee will decide whether:
 - a) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position;
 - b) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position with conditions;
 - c) The individual has not passed screening and may not participate in the desired position; or
 - d) More information is required from the individual.

16. In making its decision, and where relevant, the Screening Committee will consider the type of offense, date of offense, and relevance of the offense to the position sought.
17. The Screening Committee must decide that an individual has not passed screening if the screening documentation reveals any of the following:
- a) If imposed in the last three years:
 - i. Any offense involving the use of a motor vehicle that constitutes an offence of the *Criminal Code*
 - ii. Any offence of assault, physical or psychological violence
 - iii. Any offense for trafficking and/or possession of drugs and/or narcotics
 - iv. Any offense involving conduct against public morals
 - b) If imposed at any time:
 - a. Any offense involving a Minor or Minors
 - b. Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
 - c. Any sexual offence
 - d. Any sanctions deriving from a Maltreatment misconduct imposed by a discipline panel, the Abuse-Free Sport Director of Sanctions and Outcomes, an SDRCC Safeguarding Tribunal or any SDRCC appeal tribunal preventing the individual from participating in Canadian sport in accordance with the sanction

Conditions and Monitoring

18. Excluding the incidents above which, if revealed, would cause the individual to not pass screening, the Screening Committee may determine that incidents revealed on an individual's screening documents may allow the individual to pass the screening process and participate in a desired position with *conditions* imposed. The Screening Committee may apply and remove conditions at its discretion and will determine the means by which adherence to conditions may be monitored.

Young People

19. When screening Minors, SRA will:
- a) Not require the Minor to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
 - b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the Minor to submit up to two (2) additional references.
20. Notwithstanding the above, SRA may ask a Minor to obtain a VSC or E-PIC if the organization suspects the Minor has an adult conviction and therefore has a criminal record. In these circumstances, the organization will be clear in its request that it is not asking for the Minor's youth record. SRA understands that they may not request to see a Minor's youth record.

Renewal

21. Unless the Screening Committee determines, on a case-by-case basis, to modify the submission requirements, individuals who are required to submit an E-PIC, Screening Disclosure Form, VSC, or Screening Renewal Form, are required to submit the documents as follows:
- a) An E-PIC every three years
 - b) A Screening Disclosure Form every three years
 - c) A Screening Renewal Form every year

d) A Vulnerable Sector Check once

22. The Screening Committee may request that an individual provide any of the above documents at any time. Such request will be in writing and reasons will be provided for the request.

Orientation, Training, and Monitoring

23. The type and amount of orientation, training, and monitoring will be based on the individual's level of risk, at the discretion of SRA.

24. Orientation may include, but is not limited to: introductory presentations, facility tours, safe sport policy training, equipment demonstrations, parent/Athlete meetings, meetings with colleagues and supervisors, orientation manuals, orientation sessions, and increased supervision during initial tasks or initial period of engagement.

25. Training may include, but is not limited to: certification courses, online learning, mentoring, workshop sessions, webinars, on-site demonstrations, and peer feedback.

26. At the conclusion of orientation and training, the individual will be required to acknowledge, in written form, that they have received and completed the orientation and training.

27. Monitoring may include but is not limited to: written or oral reports, observations, evaluations, tracking, electronic surveillance, and site visits.

Records

28. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, or for use in legal, quasi-legal, or disciplinary proceedings. This includes protecting all records in accordance with the relevant and applicable privacy legislation.

29. The records kept as part of the screening process include but are not limited to:

- a) An individual's Vulnerable Sector Check
- b) An individual's E-PIC (for a period of three years)
- c) An individual's Screening Disclosure Form (for a period of three years)
- d) An individual's Screening Renewal Form (for a period of one year)
- e) Records of any conditions attached to an individual's registration by the Screening Committee
- f) Records of any discipline applied to any individual by RCA, SRA, by a Member, or by another sport organization

Privacy

30. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to SRA's [Privacy Policy](#).

31. SRA or any of its delegates pursuant to this Policy (i.e., Screening Committee) shall comply with SRA's Privacy Policy in the performance of their services under this Policy.

Appendix A – Screening Requirements Matrix

Level	Description	Requirements	Examples
Level 1	Individual that holds a decision-making position, involved in high risk assignments, occupies position of trust and/or authority, has a supervisory role, directs others, involved with finances, and who have frequent or unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete an Application Form - Complete a Screening Disclosure Form - Complete and provide a VSC - Provide one reference related to the position - Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization - Provide a driver’s abstract, if requested 	Organizational staff, Case Managers, full-time coaches, coaches that travel with athletes, coaches that could be alone with athletes
Level 2	Athletes and individuals with direct athlete contact, individuals involved in medium risk assignments who may be in a supervisory role, may direct others, may be involved with finances, and/or who may have limited access to Vulnerable Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete an Application Form - Complete a Screening Disclosure Form - Complete and provide an E-PIC - Provide one reference related to the position - Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization - Provide a driver’s abstract, if requested and relevant to the position 	Athletes, coaches, training staff, Athlete support personnel, Non-coach employees or managers, Directors, Coaches who are typically under the supervision of another coach, Umpires, Event organizing committee
Level 3	Individuals with no direct contact with athletes, involved in low risk assignments who are not in a supervisory role, not directing others, not involved with finances, and/or do not have unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete an Application Form - Complete a Screening Disclosure Form - Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization 	Certain staff and board members, certain volunteers, Parents, youth, or volunteers who are helping out on a non-regular or informal basis

Appendix B - Application Form

Note: Individuals who are applying to volunteer or work within certain positions with Rowing Canada Aviron or SRA must complete this Application Form. Individuals need to complete an Application Form once for the position sought. If the individual is applying for a new position within Rowing Canada Aviron or SRA, a new Application Form must be submitted.

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

POSITION SOUGHT: _____

By signing this document below, I agree to be subject to and adhere to the policies and procedures of Rowing Canada Aviron and SRA including but not limited to the *Code of Conduct and Ethics, Conflict of Interest Policy, Privacy Policy, and Screening Policy*. Policies are located at the following link: <https://rowingcanada.org/safe-sport/> <https://www.saskrowing.ca/governancebylaws.html>

I recognize that I must pass certain screening requirements depending on the position sought, as outlined in the *Screening Policy*, and that the Screening Committee will determine my eligibility to volunteer or work in the position.

NAME (print): _____ **DATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix C - Screening Disclosure Form

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

OTHER NAMES YOU HAVE USED: _____

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

CLUB (if applicable): _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Note: Failure to disclose truthful information below may be considered an intentional omission and the loss of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges

1. Have you been convicted of a crime? If so, please complete the following information for each conviction. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Year Convicted: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

2. Have you ever been disciplined or sanctioned by a sport governing body or by an independent body (e.g., private tribunal, government agency, etc.) or dismissed from a coaching or volunteer position? If so, please complete the following information for each disciplinary action or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Date of discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Reasons for discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

3. Are criminal charges or any other sanctions, including those from a sport body, private tribunal or government agency, currently pending or threatened against you? If so, please complete the following information for each pending charge or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Further Explanation: _____

PRIVACY STATEMENT

By completing and submitting this Screening Disclosure Form, I consent and authorize Rowing Canada Aviron and SRA to collect, use and disclose my personal information, including all information provided on the Screening Disclosure Form as well as my Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (when permitted by law) for the purposes of screening, implementation of the *Screening Policy*, administering membership services, and communicating with National Sport Organizations, Provincial Rowing Associations, Clubs, and other organizations involved in the governance of sport. Rowing Canada Aviron and its Members do not distribute personal information for commercial purposes.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained in this Screening Disclosure Form is accurate, correct, truthful and complete.

I further certify that I will immediately inform SRA of any changes in circumstances that would alter my original responses to this Screening Disclosure Form. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges and/or disciplinary action.

NAME (print): _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

SRA Screening Policy Addendum

April 2021

For further clarification, in addition to the RCA Screening Policy, SRA clubs are to follow the following procedures:

RULE OF TWO

SRA clubs are to ensure their coaches, volunteers, chaperones and other staff, adhere to the following RCA Rule of Two.

<https://rowingcanada.org/uploads/2019/07/RCA-Rule-of-Two-EN.pdf>

COACHES AND STAFF

All coaches, both volunteer and paid, are required to have the necessary coach certification requirements including:

- Making Ethical Decisions
- Rowing Essentials
- Coach Initiation in Sport
- Respect in Sport
- RCA Coach training – Learn to Row, RCA or RCA Performance.

All volunteer or paid coaches and staff are hired upon successful completion of a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search. The Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search is to be renewed and submitted to the Club every 3 years. RCA has partnered with Sterling Backcheck to ensure quick CRC turnaround at a reasonable cost of \$25 + tax, saving time and money for administration and coaches.

<https://www.sterlingtalentsolutions.ca/landing-pages/r/rowing-canada-aviron/>

CHAPERONES

All parents or guardians wishing to chaperone an away-regatta need to complete a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search prior to the regatta. The completed check needs to be submitted to the designated Club representative for approval by the Club. Only with the Club's approval and after receipt of the Criminal Record check with Vulnerable Sector search will the parent or guardian be an official regatta chaperone for the Club. Upon approval by the Club, the name of the approved chaperone and a copy of the Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search will be submitted to the SRA office. The Criminal Record Check remains on file for 3 years and needs to be renewed every 3 years should the parent or guardian wish to continue acting as an official regatta chaperone.

CONSISTENT VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers that help with the Junior program or any other club program on a recurring or regular basis need to be approved by the Club. Such Consistent Volunteers will only act as official volunteers after having passed and submitted a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search to the Club.

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS

All regatta volunteers and other volunteers who help the Club on an occasional basis will be approved by the Club, then entered into the Rowing Canada volunteer software.

All regatta volunteers in charge of driving boats (safety, official, etc.) will submit a copy of their Pleasure Craft License to the Club prior to the regatta.

All volunteers that help with driving a boat trailer need to provide a valid driving license and will be added to the Club insurance policy. Such volunteers will also need to complete driving instruction with the designated Club representative.